



Recommendation for Action

File #: 23-2349, **Agenda Item #:** 43.

8/31/2023

Posting Language

Approve a resolution authorizing the acceptance of grant funding from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division to implement the Austin Police Department Sexual Assault Evidence Testing Project.

Lead Department

Police.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$798,900 is available from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Evidence Testing Grant Program (ETGP) for the project period of September 1, 2023 - August 31, 2024. A City funding match is not required.

Prior Council Action:

September 29, 2022 - City Council approved Resolution 20220929-045, which authorized acceptance of grant funds for this project, on an 8-0 vote.

For More Information:

Robin Henderson, Chief of Staff, Austin Police Department, (512) 974-5030.

Additional Backup Information:

The City Manager's Office reviewed this grant for alignment as directed by Resolution 20200611-096 and recommends approval.

This action will provide the required resolution needed by the Criminal Justice Division (CJD) to complete the award process related to \$798,900 in grant funding. The project period is September 1, 2023 - August 31, 2024. A City match is not required.

CJD funding for the Sexual Assault Evidence Testing Project will allow the City to contract with Signature Science (\$798,900) to complete DNA testing of sex assault kits, buccal swabs and additional items to aid in casework investigations. During the project period, the City will use grant funds to help ensure the timely analysis of collected samples of sexual assault evidence.

This is the fifth year of this project. The grantor requires a resolution approved by council that includes items one through four below.

1. Authorization by your governing body for the submission of the application to the Public Safety Office (PSO) that clearly identifies the name of the project for which funding is requested;
2. A commitment to provide all applicable matching funds;
3. A designation of the name and/or title of an authorized official who is given the authority to apply for, accept, reject, alter, or terminate a grant (Note: If a name is provided, you must update the PSO should

the official change during the grant period.); and

4. A written assurance that, in the event of loss or misuse of grant funds, the governing body will return all funds to PSO.