



## Recommendation for Action

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**File #: 23-2351, Agenda Item #: 57.**

**9/21/2023**

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### **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 First Responder Mental Health Program.

### **Lead Department**

Austin Police Department.

### **Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$350,840 is available from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Victims of Crime Act Formula Grant Program for the project period of October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024. A City match is not required.

### **Prior Council Action:**

September 29, 2022 - This item was withdrawn on consent on Council Member Pool's motion, Council Member's Vela's second on an 8-0 vote.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 to complete the award process related to \$350,840 in grant funding for this new program. The project period is October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024. A City match is not required.

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding will allow the City to hire three full-time clinicians (\$294,440) to provide direct service hours focused on trauma-informed care, which will include crisis intervention, counseling, personal advocacy, and information and referrals to help first responder victims and survivors recover more quickly and completely from the effects of direct and indirect trauma. Additionally, \$51,600 will cover two trauma-informed yoga contracts for sessions at police facilities and \$4,800 will allow for the purchase of laptops for clinicians.

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.