

# Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 05/09/23

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 23-0364

LOG NAME: 35FY23 COPS HIRING

**SUBJECT**

(ALL) Authorize the Application for, and Acceptance of, if Awarded, a Community-Oriented Policing Services Grant from the United States Department of Justice, in an Amount Up to \$1,375,000.00 for the Purpose of Hiring 11 Officers for the Police Department for a Three-Year Period from Fiscal Year 2024-Fiscal Year 2027 and Authorize Execution of Related Agreement

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize the application for, and acceptance of, if awarded, the United States Department of Justice, Community Oriented Policing Services Fiscal Year 2023 Community Oriented Policing Services Hiring Program in an amount up to \$1,375,000.00; and
2. Authorize the execution of a grant agreement with the United States Department of Justice.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Program (CHP) is designed to advance public safety through community policing by addressing the full-time sworn officer needs of state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies nationwide. The CHP provides funds directly to law enforcement agencies to hire new and/or rehire career law enforcement officers and to increase their community policing capacity and crime prevention efforts.

The FY2023 CHP grant will provide up to 38 percent of the approved entry-level salaries and fringe benefits of 11 full-time officers for a 36 month grant period with an approximately 62 percent local cash match requirement. The match portion is variable due to the difference between the maximum federal share amount and the estimated cost of the officer positions. The maximum federal share is limited to the amount of \$125,000.00 per officer position while the estimated cost per officer position is \$329,776.18 during the 36 month grant period. The City of Fort Worth is required to make up this difference in the form of a cash match. The City of Fort Worth is requesting the maximum amount of \$1,375,000.00 in funding from CHP to hire 11 new officers over a 36 month period for the Police Department. A cash match requirement in the amount of \$2,252,538.00 will be required over the 36 month period. The cash match amount will be requested to transfer from the Crime Control and Prevention District Fund, beginning in FY25 and extending to FY26. Fort Worth Police Department will incur expenditures in FY2024-2027. Positions must be maintained for a minimum of 12 months following the grant period.

Decision packages will be submitted for all 11 positions. If grant funding is not received, the decision packages will follow the normal approval process and be considered for other funding.

Description	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	Total
Estimated Salary/Benefits for 11 Officers Per Year	\$1,166,106.10	\$1,208,612.58	\$1,252,819.32	\$3,627,538.00
Federal Share	\$1,166,106.10	\$208,893.90	\$0.00	\$1,375,000.00
CFW Share	\$0.00	\$999,718.68	\$1,252,819.32	\$2,252,538.00

If the grant is awarded, staff will seek approval from the Crime Control and Prevention District Board for the required grant cash match and a second Mayor and Council Communication will follow to appropriate the required matching funds and the grant award. If this grant were not to be awarded, the Police Department would need to identify another source of funds before hiring for these positions.

This grant does not allow indirect cost expenses.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This contract will be with a governmental entity, state agency or public institution of higher education: United States Department of Justice

**FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:**

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations and execution of the grant agreement, funds will be deposited into the Grants Operating Federal Fund. The Police Department (and Financial Management Services) will be responsible for the collection of funds due to the City. Prior to an expenditure being made, the Police Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds. This is a reimbursement grant.

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Expedited