

# Mayor and Council Communication

**DATE:** 02/25/25

**M&C FILE NUMBER:** M&C 25-0176

**LOG NAME:** 35FY26 FIRST RESPONDERS MENTAL HEALTH GRANT

## **SUBJECT**

(ALL) Ratify Application for, and Acceptance of, if Awarded, the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, First Responders Mental Health Grant to Occur in Fiscal Year 2026 in an Amount Up to \$250,000.00, Adopt Resolution, Authorize Execution of Related Grant Agreement, Adopt Appropriation Ordinance Increasing Estimated Receipts and Appropriations in the Grant Operating Federal Fund, in an Amount Up to \$200,000.00, and Adopt Appropriation Ordinance Increasing Estimated Receipts and Appropriations in the Grant Operating Federal Fund, in an Amount Up to \$50,000.00 for Grant Match, as a Transfer from the Crime Control Prevention District that is Included in the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Ratify application for, and acceptance of, if awarded, the Fiscal Year 2026 First Responders Mental Health Grant from the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, in an amount up to \$250,000.00;
  2. Authorize the execution of a grant agreement with the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division for the Fiscal Year 2026 First Responders Mental Health Grant;
  3. Adopt the attached resolution to make assurances as required by the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division;
  4. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Grants Operating Federal Fund in an amount up to \$200,000.00 subject to award and receipt of grant funds for the purpose of funding the Fiscal Year 2026 First Responders Mental Health Grant; and
  5. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Grants Operating Federal Fund, in an amount up to \$50,000.00 for grant match, as a transfer from the Crime Control Prevention District that is included in the Fiscal Year 2026 budget for the purpose of funding the Fiscal Year 2026 First Responders Mental Health Grant.
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## **DISCUSSION:**

The purpose of the Office of the Governor (OOG), Criminal Justice Division, First Responder Mental Health Program is to provide services and assistance directly to officers and first responders to address direct and indirect trauma that occurs in the course of their normal duties either as the result of the commission of crimes by other persons or in response to an emergency. The OOG Office seeks to support projects that allow for the identification and expansion of promising practices that follow the principles of quality-driven, evidence-based, accessible, and memorable support services.

The objectives of the program are to:

- Provide a confidential, specialized, evidence-based approach to treating and reducing stress for officers and first responders
- Improve coping mechanisms/strategies
- Increase morale and productivity
- Reduce the stigma associated with seeking help by providing safe, effective, and confidential services.

The City of Fort Worth Police Department would like to continue to bolster and strengthen the department's Wellness and Resiliency program to generate awareness and serve as a symbol to end the stigma associated with seeking help. The chips available to all first responders represent access to fully anonymous mental health services at no cost to employees. Essentially, an employee can obtain confidential counseling and mental health services for free. Service providers are selected based on their understanding of the unique challenges police officers face serving the community. Chips are available to every first responder and represent one counseling session. The funding from this grant will provide for up to 1600 counseling sessions.

Indirect costs are allowed and will be accepted at our allowable rate of 3.51%. Match is required for this grant. This is a reimbursement grant. The Grant Tracking Application Number is GRNT-APPL-0000000113.

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

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## **FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:**

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations and adoption of the attached appropriation ordinances, funds will be available in the current operating budget, as appropriated, in the Grants Operating Federal Fund. The Police Department (and Financial Management Services) will be responsible for the collection and deposit of funds due to the City. Prior to an expenditure being incurred, the Police Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds. This is a reimbursement grant.

**Submitted for City Manager's Office by:** William Johnson 5806

**Originating Business Unit Head:** Neil Noakes 4212

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