

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 01/10/23

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 23-0041

LOG NAME: 35FY24 OOG VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT (VOCA) GRANT

SUBJECT

(ALL) Authorize Application for, and Authorize Acceptance of, if Awarded, the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Victims of Crime Act Grant to Occur in Fiscal Year 2024 in an Amount up to \$165,000.00, Adopt Resolution, Authorize Execution of Related Grant Agreement, and Adopt Appropriation Ordinance

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize application for, and authorize acceptance of, if awarded, the Fiscal Year 2024 Victims of Crime Act Grant from the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, in an amount up to \$165,000.00;
 2. Authorize the execution of a grant agreement with the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division for the Fiscal Year 2024 Victims of Crime Act Grant;
 3. Adopt the attached resolution to make assurances as required by the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division; and
 4. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Grants Operating Federal Fund, subject to receipt of the grant, in an amount up to \$165,000.00.
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DISCUSSION:

The purpose of the Fiscal Year 2024 Office of the Governor (OOG), Criminal Justice Division (CJD), Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant is to provide services and assistance to victims of crime, to aid in their recovery and to help navigate through the criminal justice process. If awarded, the grant will continue to fund two positions in the Fort Worth Police Department's Victim Assistance Unit (one Victim Assistance Specialist and one High Risk Family Violence Specialist). The grant period for this award is from 10/01/2023 to 09/30/2024. The positions in this grant have been funded since Fiscal Year 2017. If this grant were not to be awarded, the Police Department will need to either identify another source of funds or terminate these positions.

The overall goal of the Fiscal Year 2024 OOG, CJD, VOCA Grant is to aid in reducing the trauma experienced by crime victims. This is achieved by providing efficient and comprehensive advocacy services for all victims of violent crimes and by conducting outreach and education to victims of family violence that are exhibiting high risk factors. Through these services, the intent is to reduce repeat victimization and intimate partner homicide.

There is no match requirement.

A portion of the awarded funds will be used to cover indirect costs at the Police Department's approved current rate of 3.74%

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

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations and adoption of the attached appropriation ordinance, 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.

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