

# Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 06/28/22

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 22-0470

LOG NAME: 022022 OPOM GRANT FARE

## **SUBJECT**

(ALL) Ratify Application for and Authorize Acceptance of a Monetary Grant in the Amount of \$30,000.00 from the Fund to Advance Racial Equity at North Texas Community Foundation to Support the Salary of One Part-Time Public Education Specialist, Technology to Support the Position and Mediation Training Contractor and Adopt Attached Appropriation Ordinance

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Ratify the application for and authorize the acceptance of a monetary grant in the amount of \$30,000.00 from the Fund to Advance Racial Equity at North Texas Community Foundation; and
  2. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Grants Operating Other Fund, subject to receipt of the grant, in the amount of \$30,000.00 for the purpose of funding the salary of one part-time Public Education Specialist, technology to support the position, survey analysis and mediation training contractor.
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## **DISCUSSION:**

In partnership with North Texas Community Foundation and fund holders, the Fund to Advance Racial Equity (FARE) was established in 2020 to provide support to nonprofits and municipal entities working to achieve a more equitable community for all. The Office of the Police Oversight Monitor (OPOM) was established in February 2020 to provide oversight and accountability of the Fort Worth Police Department (FWPD). Implementing policing recommendations to ensure fair and equitable policing; facilitate police and community conversations; monitor community member complaint investigations to ensure fairness, objectively and diligently and to audit and monitor other aspects of the Fort Worth Police Department to ensure equitable treatment.

The FARE Grant will support a part-time Public Education Specialist position that will allow OPOM to establish the restorative justice mediation program. The voluntary program aims to enhance community-police engagement, make community members feel more comfortable when encountering police, and help the community and officers reach a mutual understanding while raising cultural sensitivity of one another through mediation. The position will require technology that includes a computer setup. Additionally, funding will be used to hire a contractor to train volunteer mediators on mediation principles and OPOM's and Fort Worth Police Department's practices and policies as well as continuing mediation training. OPOM desires to contract an outside vendor to conduct survey analysis to evaluate officer and community member perceptions of community-police relations, Fort Worth Police departmental policies and procedures, and community oversight of law enforcement.

The City has made substantial investments and continues to be committed to the work of advancing racial equity and building thriving communities as well as effective community-police relationships. The funding will allow OPOM to further accomplish these objectives.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This M&C does not request approval of a contract with a business entity.

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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 ordinance, funds will be available in the current operating budget, as appropriated, in the Grants Operating Other Fund. The City Manager's Office (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 City Manager's Office has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds. This is an advance grant.

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