

City Council Meeting: April 23, 2019
Agenda Item: 3.K

To: Mayor and City Council
From: Cynthia Renaud, Chief of Police, Police Department
Subject: Accept Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)

Recommended Action

Staff recommends that the City Council:

1. Authorize the City Manager to accept two grant awards in the amount of \$28,293 and \$31,350 from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) for implementation of the JAG 2017 and 2018 Crime Impact Project;
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents to accept the grants; and
3. Authorize budget changes as outlined in the Financial Impacts & Budget Actions section of the report.

Summary

To reduce crime and ensure the safety and wellbeing of the City, SMPD utilizes a variety of public safety and quality of life strategies, including the use of focused operations that are supported by both sworn officers and civilian staff. In order to prevent a reduction in routine service responses and to maintain the quality of regular service, these supplemental crime suppression efforts are staffed using personnel on overtime. To supplement funding for overtime costs to support these activities, the Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) has been awarded two grants of \$28,293 and \$31,350 under the 2017 and 2018 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG), which is administered by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ).

Discussion

The JAG program is a formula grant that provides funding to support a range of program areas including law enforcement. Formula allocations are awarded by the DOJ to each State and then to local jurisdictions based on population and crime statistics. Santa Monica has been an annual recipient of varying amounts of Justice Department

grant funds for the past ten years. Past projects supported by this funding have included interoperable communications equipment, funding of overtime for crime control operations, funding for certified crime lab services, and funding for DNA forensic testing.

With the increasing number of visitors to the City, SMPD plans to leverage 2017 and 2018 JAG funds to fund additional overtime operations that will address identified public safety challenges. This is consistent with Council’s identified Framework Priority of Keeping Neighborhoods Safe. Without the additional funds from JAG, the opportunity to run focused operations targeting specific issues and concerns is reduced. SMPD would use the funds to plan crime control operations that specifically target priority crimes and public safety issues and quickly respond to unplanned neighborhood crime and public safety concerns. Collectively, these strategies meet unfunded needs and will serve to improve quality of life by reducing area crime and social disorder while also providing an opportunity to expand community-police partnerships.

To meet the grant conditions, SMPD provided a 30-day period for public comment on the proposed use of the funds. The City of Santa Monica met this condition by issuing a public service announcement from July 14, 2018 - August 13, 2018. The announcement was posted on the Police Department’s website. No responses were received in opposition to the use of the JAG Program funds.

Financial Impacts and Budget Actions

Staff seeks authority to accept a grant from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG), which is administered by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ).

FY 2018 - 19 Grant Budget Changes			
Establish Revenue Budget		Appropriate Funds	
Account Number(s)	Amount	Account Number(s)	Amount
20180001.40426A	\$28,293	20180001.55547A	\$28,293
20180001.40426B	\$31,350	20180001.55547B	\$31,350
Total	\$59,643	Total	\$59,643

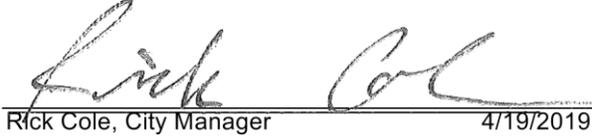
If renewals are awarded, budget changes will be included in subsequent year budgets, contingent on Council budget approval.

Prepared By: Nicole Bustamante, Senior Administrative Analyst

Approved

Forwarded to Council


Cynthia Renaud, Chief of Police 4/18/2019


Rick Cole, City Manager 4/19/2019