



City Council Report

City Council Meeting: October 25, 2016
Agenda Item: 3.Q

To: Mayor and City Council
From: Jacqueline Seabrooks, Police Chief, 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 a grant award in the amount of \$28,199 from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) for implementation of the JAG 2016 Crime Impact Project;
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents to accept the grant; and
3. Authorize budget changes as outlined in the Financial Impacts & Budget Actions section of the report.

Executive Summary

The Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) has been awarded a grant of \$28,199 under the 2016 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG), which is administered by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). The funds must be utilized by the end of the grant period, September 30, 2019. No local matching funds are required.

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. The JAG grant would provide additional funding for overtime costs associated with SMPD's citywide crime reduction efforts. These grant activities support the Police Department mission of safeguarding the community by improving the quality of life.

Background

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 launch of Expo line and the increasing number of visitors to the City, SMPD plans to leverage 2016 JAG funds to fund additional overtime operations that will address identified public safety challenges. Without the additional funds from JAG, the opportunity to run focused operations targeting specific issues and concerns is reduced.

Discussion

In 2016, the JAG funds would fund overtime to reduce crime and ensure the wellbeing of City residents and visitors. More specifically, 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, 2016 - August 13, 2016. 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

Award of a \$28,199 grant from U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant requires the following FY 2016-17 budget changes:

1. Establish a revenue budget at account 20304.403638 in the amount of \$28,199.

2. Appropriate \$28,199 to account 20304.578844 89012W to reflect receipt of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant.

Prepared By: Thomas McLaughlin, Lieutenant

Approved

Forwarded to Council

Nicole Bustamante

Nicole Bustamante, Senior Administrative Analyst

10/18/2016

Rick Cole

Rick Cole, City Manager

10/19/2016