



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Future Item for the City Council Meeting of October 15, 2019

Action Item for the City Council Meeting October 29, 2019

DATE: September 19, 2019

TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager

FROM: Mike Markle, Chief of Police
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886-2603

Accepting and appropriating the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant within the Police Department

CAPTION:

Ordinance authorizing acceptance of a grant in the amount of \$48,889.40 grant from the State of Texas, Criminal Justice Division for Violence Against Women (VAWA) Program with a cash match of \$17,808.91 and in-kind match of \$2,160; appropriating \$48,889.40 in the Police Grants Fund; and authorizing a transfer of \$17,808.91 from the General Fund to the Police Grants Fund.

SUMMARY:

Funding is available from the State of Texas, Criminal Justice Division, under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) in which the City has awarded for the 20th year grant. The grant provides funds to projects with the primary mission of reducing and preventing violence against women.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The grant continues support for the Family Violence Unit that utilizes officers and volunteers to contact family violence victims when a written report is made by a field officer or from a victim who walks into the unit at the Police Department. The grant provides funds for one civilian victim case manager to contact victims who often fear retaliation and violence when the offender is released following arrest; contact with an advocate (case manager) can provide information concerning alternatives, available services, and protective orders to avoid continued violence. The case manager serves to establish and encourage a working relationship between social agencies and the Police Department and provides educational opportunities to the community through speaking engagements, and the distribution of literature

The long-term goal of the grant is to provide victims of domestic violence and other serious crimes with crisis intervention, follow up assistance, encourage cooperation with law enforcement, facilitate utilization of available resources, and assist with immediate and long-term safety needs of victims.

The State provides \$48,889.40 for the salary/benefits of one civilian Victim Case Manager, equipment, supplies, training, and mileage. The case manager also coordinates volunteer hours that contribute \$2,160 of in-kind contributions. The City contributes \$17,808.91 from the

FY2020 PGF for training, travel, supplies and miscellaneous equipment as the required match. This grant period will be September 1, 2019 through – March 31, 2020.

ALTERNATIVES

The funding for this grant allows case management for female victims of violent crimes. Without these fund the activities to support violence against women would be limited.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The grant funds of \$48,889.48 will be appropriated into the Police grants fund. The City will contribute \$17,808.02 from the Police general fund into the Police Grants fund as the cash match for this grant.

Funding Detail:

Fund:	1020
Organization/Activity:	Police General Fund Cash Contribution to Grants
Mission Element:	152
Project # (CIP Only):	
Account:	548590
Amount:	\$17,808.91

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends accepting the grant and appropriating the \$48,889.48 grant funds into the Police Grants fund for Violence Against Women Act Grant Program within the Police Department.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Ordinance
Statement of Grant Award