



## AGENDA MEMORANDUM

First Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting on November 9, 2021  
Second Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting on November 16, 2021

**DATE:** November 9, 2021  
**TO:** Peter Zanoni, City Manager  
**FROM:** Mike Markle, Chief of Police  
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### Accepting and appropriating the Victims of Crime Act Grant (VOCA) within the Police Department

#### **CAPTION:**

Ordinance authorizing acceptance of a grant in an amount of \$129,212.45 from State of Texas, Criminal Justice Division for Victims of Crime Act Grant with a cash match of \$28,000.00 and in-kind match of \$4,320.00; transferring \$28,000.00 from the General Fund to the Police Grants Fund; appropriating \$157,212.45 in the Police Grants Fund; and authorizing three full-time employees for Victim Case Managers.

#### **SUMMARY:**

Funding is available from the State of Texas, Criminal Justice Division, to continue the program within the Police Department which provides funds to projects with the primary mission of providing direct services to victims of crime.

#### **BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:**

The grant continues the Victim Assistance Program that provides assistance to victims and family members with the goal of lessening both the short and long-term trauma experienced as a direct result of victimization. The program provides victims and their family members with information, reassurance, and guidance for resolving problems and referrals to other social service agencies.

The grant covers the salaries and benefits for three Victim Case Managers who provide services to victims. The services include information and referral, criminal justice support and case information, assistance with filing forms for benefits available through the Crime Victims' Compensation under the Texas Crime Victims Compensation Act, informing victims of their rights as victims, advocating on victims' behalf with other agencies and within the criminal justice system, and transportation to shelter or to court.

Primary and secondary victims of crime are assisted in order to help them stabilize their lives after victimization and to help them to understand and participate in the criminal justice system. This helps to provide victims of crime with a measure of safety and security. The Case Managers also work closely through coalitions and other agencies in an ongoing effort to identify needs and to improve the quality and continuity of services to victims in the community.

For this grant, the State provides \$129,212.45 for the salaries and benefits of three Victim Case Managers. Volunteer hours contribute \$4,320.00 as an in-kind contribution, and the City contributes \$28,000.00 for training, travel, supplies and miscellaneous equipment as the required 20% match. The funding is not on a declining percentage or ending funding cycle. The grant period will be October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021. The City has received the grant for the past 22 years. Last year the City received a two-year grant in the amount of \$282,848. The State has since revised the grant periods to only one year.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The alternative is not to accept the funds which will cause the program to be curtailed.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The fiscal impact for FY 2022 is accepting and appropriating an amount of \$129,212.45 to the Police Grants Fund. This item also will authorize a transfer and appropriation in an amount of \$28,000.00 from the General Fund to the Police Grants Fund for the City cash match for a total appropriation in the Police Grants Fund of \$157,212.45.

**Funding Detail:**

Fund: 1020 & 1061  
Organization/Activity: 1020-60035/1061-822123F  
Mission Element: 152  
Project # (CIP Only):  
Account: 548590 Cash contribution - grant match  
510100 Salaries and Wages  
511000 Retirement  
513000 Group insurance benefits  
513001 Other employee benefits  
548120 Self Insurance Allocation  
Amount: \$157,212.45

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends accepting the award and appropriating the funds.

**LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

Statement of grant award.