



## **AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

First Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting December 17, 2019  
Second Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting January 14, 2020

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**DATE:** November 20, 2019  
**TO:** Peter Zaroni, 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
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### **CAPTION:**

Ordinance accepting a \$282,848.09 grant from State of Texas, Criminal Justice Division for Victims of Crime Act Outreach Program with City match of \$61,112.03 and in-kind match of \$9,600 from Police General Fund; appropriating the \$282,848.09 in Police Grants Fund; authorizing transfer of \$61,112.03 from the Police General Fund to the Police Grants Fund and appropriating the same for total project cost of \$353,560.12, and authorizing a staff complement of 3 FTE's.

### **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 to provide assistance to victims and family members with the goal of lessening the short and long-term trauma experienced as a direct result of victimization. Victims and their family members are provided with information, reassurance, and guidance for resolving problems and referrals to other social service agencies.

The grant covers the salary/benefits for three Victim Case Managers who provide services to victims including 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 to help stabilize their lives after victimization, help victims to understand and participate in the criminal justice system, and provide victims of crime with a measure of safety and security. The case managers also work closely through coalitions and with other agencies in an ongoing effort to identify needs and to improve the quality and continuity of services to victims in the

community.

The State provides \$282,848.09 for the salary/benefits of three Victim Case Managers. Volunteer hours contribute \$9,600 as an in-kind contribution, and the City contributes \$61,112.03 over the two-year period for training, travel, supplies and miscellaneous equipment as the required 20% match. The funding is not on a declining percentage or ending funding cycle. This grant period will be 10/01/2019 – 06/30/2019. This will be the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> years of program funding.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The alternative of not accepting the funds will cause the program to be curtailed.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Funding for the City match of \$61,112.03 (over two fiscal years) is budgeted in FY20 under cash contribution to grants. It will also be budgeted in FY21.

**Funding Detail:**

Fund: 1020  
Organization/Activity: 60035 Police General Fund  
Mission Element: 152  
Project # (CIP Only):  
Account: 548590

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends accepting the award and appropriating the funds.

**LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

Grant award document