



City of Huntington Beach

File #: 20-1446

MEETING DATE: 3/2/2020

REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

SUBMITTED TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

SUBMITTED BY: Oliver Chi, City Manager

PREPARED BY: Robert Handy, Chief of Police

Subject:

Approve Cal OES Violence Against Women Act Grant (LE19036860) for the 2020 calendar year which includes accepting the grant between the State of California, Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and the City; authorize the Chief of Police to execute documents; approve the appropriation of \$203,143 which is fully reimbursed by the grant from Cal OES; and, amend the Professional Services Listing to include provided domestic violence services

Statement of Issue:

The Police Department applied for a grant through the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to fund our Violence against Women Program. The Police Department was notified of its award of \$203,143. City Council approval is necessary to fully accept the grant from the State. The grant has a three-year funding cycle, with the third year being January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020.

Financial Impact:

A City match amount of \$67,714 is required and has been included in the Police Department's budget under the General Fund, Account Number 10070203. The total project cost for the 2020 calendar year is \$270,857 with the grant award offsetting \$203,143 in new revenue. A new grant fund will be established upon approval by City Council. No additional appropriation of funds is necessary.

Recommended Action:

A) Accept the grant between the State of California, Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and the City of Huntington Beach; and,

B) Assign authority to the Chief of Police as the official to execute and sign for the award and to approve amendments and extensions; and,

C) Appropriate \$203,143 for the Violence against Women Program costs, all of which will be reimbursed by the grant from Cal OES; and,

D) Amend the Professional Services Listing to include domestic violence services in the amount of

\$270,857.

Alternative Action(s):

Do not approve and direct staff accordingly.

Analysis:

The Police Department applied for and was awarded a grant by Cal OES to combat, investigate and prosecute domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking cases. This is the third year of a three-year grant cycle. The third-year grant funding is \$270,857, which includes the \$67,714 match. The majority of the grant will pay for the services of two Victim Advocates. The Victim Advocates are contracted through Waymakers Victim Assistance Program and Interval House. The remaining funds will pay for two part-time domestic violence investigators.

This collaboration has been in effect since 1998. Since the inception of the Violence against Women Project, the Advocates have been continuously funded through a series of grants. The goal of the program is to help heal families and stop the cycle of violence. Without this grant, the Police Department would not be able to offer the services of Victim Advocates to victims of domestic violence. The Advocates work closely with a Police Department investigator to form a cohesive team to assist victims.

The acceptance of the grant will pay for the collaboration involving the Police Department through December 31, 2020. The cash match of \$67,714 is located within the existing Police Department budget. In addition, the agreement with Interval House offers priority shelter for domestic violence victims and their children from Huntington Beach on a 24-hour basis. The two part-time investigators assist a full-time detective, allowing the police department to investigate domestic violence incidents in a timely manner, resulting in improved services to victims.

Environmental Status:

Not applicable.

Strategic Plan Goal:

Enhance and modernize public safety service delivery

Attachment(s):

1. Grant award letter and packet.