



CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM

Report: 2020 COPS Hiring Grant, Request for Authorization to Accept Grant Funds in the amount of \$250,000 with matching funds in the amount of \$751,920 for a 3-year award period to be used to hire two new officers to increase community policing and crime prevention efforts.

1. Motion to Accept Grant Funds to hire two new officers to increase community policing and crime prevention efforts.
2. Resolution of Appropriation.

COUNCIL ACTION

Item Type: Consent Calendar

Approved for September 1, 2020 **calendar**

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

Submitted by:

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Prepared by:

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Reviewed by:

Michele Flynn, Director of Finance

Roubik R. Golanian, P.E., Assistant City Manager

Michael J. Garcia, City Attorney

Approved by:

Yasmin K. Beers, City Manager

RECOMMENDATION

It is respectfully recommended that the City Council adopt a motion accepting grant funds offered by the 2020 COPS Hiring Grant in the amount of \$250,000 with matching funds in the amount of \$751,920 for a 3-year award period to be used to hire two new officers to increase community policing and crime prevention efforts, and approve a resolution of appropriation.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

In March 2020, an application seeking grant funds was submitted to the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) to participate in the 2020 COPS Hiring Program (CHP). The CHP provides funding directly to law enforcement agencies to hire and/or rehire career law enforcement officers in an effort to increase their community policing capacity and crime prevention efforts.

2020 CHP awards will cover up to 75 percent of the approved entry-level salary and fringe benefits of each newly hired and/or rehired full-time sworn career law enforcement officer over the 3-year (36-month) award period, with a minimum 25 percent local match requirement and maximum federal share of \$125,000 per officer position. The CHP award will be based on each agency's current entry-level salary and fringe benefits for fulltime sworn officers. Any additional costs for higher than entry-level salaries and fringe benefits will be the responsibility of the recipient agency. The CHP award requires a 12-month retention for each officer position following the conclusion of the 3-year (36-month) period of the grant.

The City of Glendale over the last 12 years has implemented a number of budget reduction strategies including staffing level reduction of sworn personnel at the Police Department. The Glendale Police Department (GPD) had been authorized a total of 275 officers in 2006. However, since that time, the agency has seen a reduction in size, with an authorized sworn position count of 243 in 2020.

During the FY 2020-21 Annual Budget process, two vacant positions from other City departments were redirected to the Police Department as two new police officer positions, bringing the sworn authorized position count up to 245. By reinstating two of the previously eliminated police officer positions, the Police Department will instill proactive measures to partner with our community and its organizations to improve safety.

The Police Department values their relationship with the community. GPD maintains open communications with the public through innumerable groups, service agencies, business affiliations, homeowners' associations, and schools to name a few. The additional staff will allow GPD to reinvigorate our community and school partnerships on

several fronts as the additional resources will provide the means to work with the City's community groups more closely and frequently. The City has made a long term problem solving through partnerships, a top priority and continually engages in multiple initiatives to maintain and improve the quality of life for the residents and businesses in the City.

The acceptance of the 2020 COPS Hiring Program grant will enable the agency to transform into a more effective public safety entity that is better able to address community issues as well as the safety of our youth.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Police Department received the maximum federal share of \$125,000 per officer for the 3-year (36 month) grant period, \$250,000 in total for two officers. This offsets the total cost of each officer by approximately \$42,000 per year. As the 2020 COPS Hiring Program (CHP) requires matching funds from the grantee, the remaining funding for the entry-level salary and fringe benefits of each newly hired and/or rehired full-time sworn career law enforcement officer is the responsibility of the City.

Upon Council's approval to accept the grant funds, \$250,000 will be appropriated from the Police Special Grants Fund, Federal grant revenue account 31240-2610-GPD-0020-P0000-T0000-F0000-0000-0000 to the 2020 COPS Hiring Program, project number GPD00469AG, expense account 41100-2610-GPD-0020-P0000-T0000-F0000-0000-0000 (Salaries, Police Special Grants Fund). The matching requirement for the officer positions was approved during the FY 2020-21 Annual Budget process in the general fund and will be expensed in Salaries and Benefits accounts in the General Fund program for the 2020 COPS Hiring Grant matching funds (41100-1010-GPD-7000-P6014-T0000-F0000-0000-0000).

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1: Approve the motion accepting the grant award, appropriate the funding as requested, and move forward with the hiring of two (2) new officers.

Alternative 2: Not approve the motion accepting the grant award and the two (2) positions approved through the FY 2020-21 Annual Budget process will be fully funded by the general fund as adopted.

Alternative 3: The City Council may consider any other alternative not proposed by staff.

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

Not applicable.

EXHIBITS

None.