



CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM

Report: BJA 2020 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Grant

1. Motion authorizing acceptance of the BJA 2020 DNA Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Grant and authorizing the Interim City Manager, or his designee, to execute the necessary agreements, certification, and other documents required to accept the Grant

2. Resolution to appropriate \$376,102 in BJA 2020 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Grant funds

COUNCIL ACTION

Item Type: Consent Calendar

Approved for December 15, 2020 **calendar**

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

Submitted by:

Carl Povilaitis, Police Chief

Prepared by:

Catherine Nguyen, Lab Director

Reviewed by:

Michele Flynn, Director of Finance

Michael J. Garcia, City Attorney

Approved by:

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

RECOMMENDATION

It is respectfully recommended that the City Council approve participation in the 2020 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction program offered by the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). It is further recommended that the City Council authorize the Interim City Manager, or his designee, to accept the BJA 2020 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction grant funds in the amount of \$376,102 and to execute the necessary agreements, certification, and other documents necessary to implement said grant funding. A recommended resolution of appropriation is also attached.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction program was established to assist accredited crime laboratories with the procurement of equipment and logistical supplies for purposes of enhancing DNA processing turnaround time. In past years, similar grant funds have been utilized by the Police Department to procure additional equipment and to reimburse the City for the salaries and benefits of part-time Forensic Biology staff.

In applying for the grant, the Verdugo Regional Crime Laboratory conducted a needs assessment and identified the equipment and materials required to fulfill the grant objectives to positively impact the laboratory's ability to reduce turnaround time and increase sample capacity.

The assessment identified the need for increased staffing to assist in routine laboratory maintenance and to initiate evidence processing. The Forensic Biology Unit of the Verdugo Regional Crime Laboratory has hired an additional City Hourly Worker to assist in these functions. The 2020 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction program funds (\$376,102) will be used to pay for salaries and benefits of City hourly workers employed by the Forensic Biology Unit. The grant award period is from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2022.

This award will be specifically used to meet the goal of increased sample capacity resulting in more cases completed per analyst with shorter case turnaround times. There are no matching funds required for this grant.

FISCAL IMPACT

The 2020 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Grant does not require matching funds from the grantee.

Upon Council's approval, funding received in the amount of \$376,102 for the 2020 DNA CEBR Grant project number GPD00517AG will be appropriated into revenue account 31240-2610-GPD-0020-P0000-T0000-F0000-0000-0000- and expensed in labor account 41300-2610-GPD-0020-P0000-T0000-F0000-0000-0000.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1: Approve as requested by the Police Department.

Alternative 2: Not approve acceptance of the grant funds and pay for the cost of the additional staffing for the Forensic Biology Unit from the existing budget.

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

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

Not applicable.

EXHIBITS

None.