



## CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

### AGENDA ITEM

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Report: California Governor's Office of Emergency Services Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Program, Request for Authorization to Accept Grant Funds in the amount of \$57,622 to be used for equipment and training for the Verdugo Regional Crime Laboratory.

1. Motion authorizing acceptance of the 2021 Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grant and authorizing the City Manager, or a designee, to execute the necessary agreements, certification, and other documents required to accept the Grant.
2. Resolution of Appropriation in the amount of \$57,622 in 2021 Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grant funds.

### COUNCIL ACTION

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**Item Type:** Consent Calendar

**Approved for** August 9, 2022 **calendar**

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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The Glendale Police Department requests acceptance of \$57,622 in grant funds from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) for the grant period of April 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023, to be used for equipment, laboratory supplies and training in the Verdugo Regional Crime Laboratory (VRCL).

## **COUNCIL PRIORITIES**

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N/A

## **RECOMMENDATION**

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Accept the 2021 Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grant funds in the amount of \$57,622, authorize the City Manager to execute the necessary agreements, certification, and other documents required to implement the Grant, and adopt a resolution to appropriate the funds for equipment, laboratory supplies, and training.

## **BACKGROUND**

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In June 2021, an application seeking grant funds was submitted to the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services to improve the quality and timeliness of the case processing provided by the Police Department's Verdugo Regional Crime Laboratory ("Laboratory"). The Police Department was recently notified that its application was approved in the amount of \$57,622 as part of the Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Program. Grant funds will be used to outfit additional examination workstations, replace aging equipment, and provide training to ensure that the laboratory is meeting forensic quality standards.

## **ANALYSIS**

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In applying for the grant, the Laboratory conducted a needs assessment and identified equipment, materials and training required to fulfill the grant objectives of improved forensic testing services.

The Laboratory recently remodeled existing office and miscellaneous space to expand laboratory examination space. The new examination space included expanded DNA testing facilities, an additional room for logging crime scene evidence, and a new computer forensic examination laboratory. All renovations have been completed, but some examination spaces are lacking laboratory grade furnishings and equipment. Grant funds will be used to purchase laboratory furniture and equipment in order to enable multiple concurrent examinations. In addition, the Laboratory will replace aging equipment/computer tablets utilized for crime scene documentation.

Grant funds will also be utilized to provide training that will improve the quality of forensic testing services. Continuous self-evaluation and updates improve overall laboratory quality and timeliness of forensic services.

## **STAKEHOLDERS/OUTREACH**

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Grant funds will be used to improve the quality of forensic testing services provided to customer agencies and the public.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

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The 2021 Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grant funds in the amount of \$57,622, were not included as part of the FY2022-23 approved budget. Therefore, staff

requests an appropriation of \$57,622 from grant revenue. The appropriation request is outlined below:

<b>Requesting Appropriation</b>			
<b>Amount</b>	<b>From (Account String)</b>	<b>To (Account String)</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
\$57,622	GL: 31240-2610-GPD-0020 PL: GPD00801AG		Police Special Grant Fund – Federal Funding
\$1,345		GL: 44650-2610-GPD-0020 PL: GPD00801AG	Police Special Grant Fund – Training
\$26,850		GL: 45150-2610-GPD-0020 PL: GPD00801AG	Police Special Grant Fund – Furniture/Equipment
\$6,900		GL: 45350-2610-GPD-0020 PL: GPD00801AG	Police Special Grant Fund – General Supplies
\$22,527		GL: 51000-2610-GPD-0020 PL: GPD00801AG	Police Special Grant Fund – Capital Outlay

### **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW (CEQA/NEPA)**

This item is considered a ministerial activity and therefore, not subjected to CEQA/NEPA review. There is no possibility that the acceptance of this award may have a significant effect on the environment. (14 Cal. Code Regs. § 15061(b)(3)).

### **CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE**

This item is exempt from campaign disclosure requirements.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

Alternative 1: Approve as requested by the Police Department.

Alternative 2: Deny the Police Department's request. Expenses for capital outlay, furniture, equipment and training would be absorbed by the Police Department budget.

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION**

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**Prepared by:**

Catherine Nguyen, Lab Director

**Approved by:**

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

**EXHIBITS/ATTACHMENTS**

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None.