



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:20-3012

Agenda Item Number: 12.

Agenda Date: 5/14/2020

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Police

DEPARTMENT HEAD: William P. McManus, Chief of Police

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: City wide

SUBJECT:

FY2020 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) grant

SUMMARY:

An ordinance authorizing an application and the acceptance of grant funds not to exceed \$2,331,581.00 for the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) Program FY 2020 Formula Grant from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for preventing, preparing for, and responding to the coronavirus pandemic. The grant period is from January 20, 2020 through January 19, 2022.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On April 1, 2020 the U.S. DOJ announced that it was making \$850 million available to help public safety agencies respond to the challenges posed by the outbreak of COVID-19. The Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) program was authorized by the recent stimulus legislation and will allow eligible entities to apply immediately for funding. The DOJ has committed to having funds available for drawdown within days of the award which is expected to be made in early June.

The CESF program is a formula grant in which the DOJ assigns funding amounts based on the entity's previous eligibility and participation in the FY2019 State and Local Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, and only those entities are eligible to apply for the CESF Formula Grant. The SAPD therefore qualifies for this grant.

The CESF grant is in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and was established to assist local units of government to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus. Funding under this program may be utilized for projects and purchases which include, but are not limited to, overtime, equipment (including law enforcement and medical personal protective equipment), hiring, supplies (such as gloves, masks, sanitizer), training, travel expenses (particularly related to the distribution of resources to the most impacted areas), and

addressing the medical needs of inmates in state, local, and tribal prisons, jails, and detention centers.

The SAPD will utilize funds to purchase equipment and supplies needed to continue operations during the current pandemic, as well as reoccurrence of the COVID-19 pandemic, and future pandemics and similar crises, where contamination of personnel, equipment and facilities could endanger citizens and City staff, as well as hamper operations due to inability to utilize contaminated equipment and facilities. This funding will also assist the SAPD in strengthening its Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP). Portions of the funding may be used for expenditures incurred in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic beginning on January 20, 2020.

ISSUE:

This ordinance continues City Council's policy of seeking and accepting financial assistance in order to continue public safety and enforcement programs and protecting the citizenry of San Antonio.

ALTERNATIVES:

City Council could elect not to apply and accept the grant funds, however, choosing not to will result in the City losing up to \$2,331,581.00 to address the current and future pandemic type crises.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This ordinance authorizes an application and the acceptance of grant funds not to exceed \$2,331,581.00 for the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) Program FY 2020 Formula Grant from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for preventing, preparing for, and responding to the coronavirus pandemic. The grant period is from January 20, 2020 through January 19, 2022. This grant does not require an in-kind or cash match.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that City Council approve the application and acceptance of the grant award.