

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	20-231	Meeting:	May 18, 2020
	Agenda Item:	30 31 32	Roll Call:	20-0834-6
	Submitted by:	Dana Wingert, Chief of Police		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approval to apply for three (3) grants from the U.S. Department of Justice - Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program, Fiscal Year (FY) 2020; Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness; and FY 2020 Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office School Violence Prevention Program.

SYNOPSIS:

The Police Department seeks approval to apply for the following grants:

- The Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program grant is a formula grant designated for law enforcement entities who receive the annual Justice Assistance Grant (JAG). This funding is specifically designated for the prevention, preparedness and response to the Coronavirus. This funding will be used for building a reserve of personal protective supplies, multi-use space upgrades to allow for virtual connectivity, and updated technology infrastructure to support social distancing and remote communications.
- The Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness grant will supply funding for the continued development of a Peer Support Program. The goal of the program is to reduce or remove obstacles to employee wellness (whether personally or professionally induced) by providing well-being advocacy, intervention, professional referral, and training.
- COPS Office School Violence Prevention Program requests funding to support the purchase of digital radios for the Des Moines Public Schools Public Safety unit and program licenses for the Police Department portable radios.

FISCAL IMPACT:

<u>Amount:</u>	Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding:	\$509,302
	Law Enforcement Wellness Grant:	\$123,361
	COPS Office School Violence Prevention Program:	\$168,750 (25% match equaling \$56,250)

Funding Source: The match for the COPS School Violence Prevention Program will be paid for with Asset Forfeiture Funds. Special Revenues on page 207 of the Recommended Operating Budget, Department Detail for FY 2021.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program offers a predetermined amount with the stipulation that the funding support the prevention, prepare for or respond to the Coronavirus. The funding, if awarded, will be used to purchase personal protection supplies such as face masks and disinfectant as well as equipment to improve distancing and virtual communications. Conference rooms will become multi-purpose areas with individual work tables able to be easily moved to increase distance or be reconfigured to serve as training spaces. A small room will be added in the lower level for interviews that address sensitive incidences and will also serve as a virtual meeting room. Funding will also support critical infrastructure improvement to allow further progression towards shared services.
- The Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness grant will support the continued development of a Peer Support Program. The grant application requests funding to allow the Sergeant, serving as the program coordinator, Officers and other personnel to receive overtime compensation for assisting coworkers who are having difficulty with personal or work-related events. The program will include the professional services of the licensed psychologist to provide training and professional assistance. The program would research a cellular phone application that would provide instant resources and informational referral to all Police Department employees and their families.
- The COPS Office School Violence Prevention Program grant provides funding directly to state and units of local government for the purpose of improving security at schools and on school grounds. The application was written in collaboration with Des Moines Public Schools Public Safety Office to request the purchase of new digital radios compatible with the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communication System (ISICS). The programming of the new radios will require coordination with the Des Moines Radio Services to allow the radios to communicate with other ISICS users such as the Des Moines Police Department, Fire Department, and other emergency response departments. The Police Department requested funding to support the second and third-year licenses for their digital portable radios to delay budgetary impact for the Police Department operating budget.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

The City Council will need to accept any and all of the grants, if awarded, and make the equipment purchases requested in the application.

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