



City of La Quinta

CITY / SA/ HA/ FA MEETING DATE: June 3, 2014

AGENDA CATEGORY:

ITEM TITLE: AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATION TO EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM AND ACCEPT FUNDS

BUSINESS SESSION:

CONSENT CALENDAR: 12

STUDY SESSION:

PUBLIC HEARING:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Authorize the City Manager to submit a grant application to the United States Department of Justice, Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program for traffic-related law enforcement services and accept the awarded funds.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

- In 2005, the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistant Grant (JAG) Program was established to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime based on local needs.
- The City has been awarded \$12,978 and a grant application is required in order for the City to access the funds.
- The La Quinta Police Department has analyzed needs and will utilize the money to acquire traffic safety devices and replace computer and cell phone equipment issued to the Special Enforcement Team/Business District Officers.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

Historically, the City has used JAG funds to purchase equipment that support crime control initiatives. In prior years, the City's grant award would be reduced by 10 percent as another agency would serve as the lead fiscal agent to administer the grant. This year, the City will receive 100 percent and be responsible for grant administration. The full grant amount will be utilized for La Quinta Police

Department equipment needs, which have been identified by the City's Assistant Police Chief and are as follows:

- Traffic Safety Devices (\$5,000) – In order to assist with traffic safety enhancement and resident complaints about speeding, traffic radar recording devices will monitor activity at key areas and utilize the data to determine which areas need additional patrol.
- Computer Upgrades (\$5,000) - Computers utilized by the Special Enforcement Team and Business District Officers have reached the end of their life cycle and are in need of replacement. The Police Department is exploring computer upgrades that provide mobility to police officers rather than needing to conduct work at a stationary location.
- Cell Phone Upgrades (\$2,978) – Cell phones utilized by the La Quinta Police Department are well beyond their life cycle, are out of warranty, and in many cases are no longer produced by their manufacturer. The Police Department is beginning a conversion of their existing devices to iPhones, which provide more capability for Police officers when in the field.

ALTERNATIVE

As this grant opportunity provides the City with the ability to defray General Fund costs for police services and procure new equipment, staff does not recommend an alternative.

Report prepared by: Chris Escobedo, Assistant to City Manager

Report approved for submission by: Frank J. Spevacek, City Manager