



CITY OF HOUSTON - CITY COUNCIL

Meeting Date: 8/10/2021

Item Creation Date:

HPD-FY21 COPS Hiring Program

Agenda Item#: 41.

Summary:

ORDINANCE approving and authorizing the submission of an application for and acceptance of grant funds from the Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) for the FY21 COPS Hiring Program Grant ("Grant"); declaring the City's eligibility for such Grant; authorizing the Police Chief of the City of Houston Police Department to act as the City's representative to accept such grant funds, and to apply for, and accept, all subsequent awards, if any, pertaining to the Program

Background:

The Chief of Police for the Houston Police Department (HPD) recommends that City Council approve an ordinance authorizing the electronic application for and acceptance of grant funds through the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), FY21 COPS Hiring Program Grant. The FY21 COPS Hiring Program will provide grant funds directly to law enforcement agencies to hire new law enforcement officers to increase its community policing capacity and crime prevention efforts. If awarded, the US Department of Justice will provide \$6,250,000.00 in grant funding. This grant allows for term extensions based on planning requirements.

HPD applied for grant funding to hire 50 full-time police cadets over the course of 3 years. The total compensation and benefit costs to support these 50 cadets is \$12,837,800.00. Under the COPS Hiring Program Grant, the Department of Justice will provide grant funds of up to \$125,000.00 for each officer for a maximum of \$6,250,000.00. There is a 25% **minimum** cash matching component, however, the City's matching costs will surpass 25% since the grant funds per officer are capped at \$125,000.00. The City will incur matching costs estimated at \$6,587,800.00 which covers the remaining costs of the classes. Based on these provisions, this funding will off-set cadet costs at almost 50% for the hiring of 50 additional cadets.

The Houston Police Department also requests City Council to authorize the Chief of Police or his designee to act as the City's representative in the application process with the authority to apply for, accept and expend the grant funds as awarded, and apply for, accept and expend all subsequent awards, if any, to extend the budget period, and to authorize the Mayor to execute all related agreements with the approval of the City Attorney in connection with the grant not to exceed five years.

If awarded, the chart below illustrates the amount and source of funding for the 50 new cadets during the three-year period:

	FY2022	OUT YEAR FUNDING			Total Amount
		FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	
US Department of Justice	0.00	1,550,968.00	2,258,971.00	2,440,061.00	6,250,000.00
General Fund Cash Match	0.00	1,633,932.00	2,381,479.00	2,572,389.00	6,587,800.00
Total Project Cost	0.00	3,184,900.00	4,640,450.00	5,012,450.00	12,837,800.00

Fiscal Note:

There is no impact to the FY2022 Adopted Budget for this item. Therefore, no Fiscal Note is required as stated in the Financial Policies.

No Fiscal Note is required on grant items.

DS DocuSigned by:

RS Troy Finner

A8A225F96B7149C

Troy Finner
Chief of Police

Amount of Funding:

\$6,250,000.00
Federal Grant Fund
(5000)

\$6,587,800.00
General Fund Cash Match
(1000)

Contact Information:

Rhonda Smith, Deputy Director/CFO (713)308-1708
Sonja Odat, Council Liaison (713)308-1728

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Signed RCA
Funding Documents
Ordinance

Type

Signed Cover sheet
Signed Cover sheet
Ordinance/Resolution/Motion