



City Council Report

Date: August 18, 2014
To: City Council
Through: John Pombier, Deputy City Manager
From: Frank L. Milstead, Police Chief
Jeff Thompson, Commander
Subject: SubGrant Award Agreement between the City of Mesa and the Arizona Department of Public Safety - Citywide

Strategic Initiatives



Purpose and Recommendation

The City of Mesa Police Department is respectfully requesting the Mesa City Council authorize the City Manager or his or his designee to enter into a SubGrant Award Agreement with the Arizona Department of Public Safety, Victim Assistance Grant Program to accept \$195,760 for salary and fringe benefits of three Victim Service Specialists.

Background

The Mesa Police Department Victim Services Unit has been the recipient of Arizona Department of Public Safety funds through the Victims of Crime Act since 1997. Grantees must be operated by a public agency, must provide direct services to crime victims, must assist victims in obtaining victim compensation, must utilize volunteers and must promote coordinated public and private efforts to aid victims.

Discussion

The Police Department's Victim Services Unit responds to emotional and physical needs of crime victims, assists victims of crime to stabilize their lives, assists victims through the criminal justice system and provides a measure of safety and security.

The Victim Services Specialists provide services to victims of domestic violence, sex crimes and violent felony crimes. Personnel are responsible for providing crisis intervention, educational and emotional support and referrals to community services.

Alternatives

Decline the funding. If the funds are declined, they will be returned to the Department of Public Safety who will then reallocate the funds. If the funding is declined, the Mesa Police Department Victim Services Unit will not be able to provide crisis intervention to victims of crime.

Fiscal Impact

The total cost for salary and benefits for the three Victim Services Specialists is \$221,313 and the award amount is \$195,760. The Victims of Crime Act Grant Program provides \$197,760 towards this project; the difference, \$25,553 is funded by the Police Department's operating budget.

Also, a match of \$48,940 is required. As a means to satisfy the in-kind match requirement, a portion of the salary and benefits for the Police Department's Victim Services Volunteer Coordinator position will be used. The Victim Services Volunteer Coordinator is a City funded position that is currently filled.

Coordinated With

The City of Mesa Police Department recommends the approval of accepting funds through a SubGrant Award Agreement with the Arizona Department of Public Safety, Victims of Crime Act (VOCA).