



City Council Report

Date: July 5, 2016
To: City Council
Through: John Pombier, Assistant City Manager
From: John Meza, Police Chief
William Peters, Commander
Subject: 2016 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program Award - 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 designee to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Phoenix and Maricopa County to accept \$135,000 in grant funds from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, which will be used to replace the Mesa Police Department's Digital Evidence Management System.

Background

The 2016 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant funding is only available to local units of government that have reported at least three years of data on Part I violent crimes to the FBI. This year, the total allocation available for Maricopa County is \$1,064,609. The funding is received by Maricopa County and passed through to the partnering jurisdictions. Representatives from all jurisdictions have agreed upon the distributions each agency will receive.

As part of the application process, Maricopa County compiles information from each of the jurisdictions and submits one application. In addition, an IGA between the partnering agencies must be signed. No funding will be available to any agency until the requested information has been completed. When the funds become available, Maricopa County will administer the account.

Discussion

The Police Department will use the funds to replace the Digital Evidence Management System which is used to store digital evidence such as crime scene photos. The current system has no data retention abilities and requires a manual process to identify files that can be disposed. This has resulted in a growing number images increasing the need for storage and backups. A new system will allow for greater flexibility, use by mobile devices, and retention schedules and alerting.

Alternatives

Decline the funds. If the funds are declined, Maricopa County will redistribute them to the partnering jurisdictions. If the funding is declined, the Police Department will not be able to replace its Digital Evidence Management System.

Fiscal Impact

The award amount is \$135,000 and no match is required. Maricopa County will distribute funds upon receipt. Mesa Police Department personnel will provide quarterly programmatic and financial reports. Mesa Police Department personnel will also monitor the account balance for the project. This is a three year grant.

Coordinated With

The City of Mesa Police Department recommends the approval of accepting funds from Maricopa County through the 2016 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program.