



City Council Report

Date: August 22, 2022
To: City Council
Through: Scott Butler, Assistant City Manager
From: Honorable John Tatz, Presiding City Magistrate
Shawn Haught, Court Administrator
Subject: Court Security Improvement Grant (District 4)

Purpose and Recommendation

The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Mesa City Council (hereafter, “the Council”) to accept an award from the Administrative Offices of the Courts (hereafter, “AOC”) to improve security at the Mesa Municipal Court (hereafter, “the Court” and “the Courthouse”) by window tinting the south-facing windows of the Court building.

Background

On January 28, 2021, the AOC issued a memo announcing a second opportunity for courts throughout the state to apply for grant monies (FY 2023) for court security improvements, as outlined in the Court Security Standards of the Arizona Code of Judicial Administration, § 5–301. Two of the requirements of the application were to attach a recent Court Security Assessment (hereafter, “Assessment”) performed by a third party to determine the Court’s security needs, and an estimate to remedy the identified security need(s). On March 9, 2021, the Judicial Branch Security Department (hereafter, “JBSD”) performed an onsite assessment of the Court’s security measures. The JBSD strongly recommended that the Court “install tinted/reflective film on all exterior windows to limit visibility into the building from the outside.”

Though the Court sought \$72,000 to tint the entire Court building, the Court was awarded a partial grant of \$32,490 on June 25, 2021, to tint all but the south-facing windows. In August 2021, the Court sought approval from the Mesa City Council to accept the grant award; this was approved on August 23, 2021, in Resolution No. 11719. After going through the solicitation process, the lowest bidder was awarded. The Agreement Pursuant to Solicitation was signed by Deluxe Detail and Tint (hereafter, “Vendor”) on October 12, 2021, and signed by the City’s designee on November 1, 2021. Most of the tinting was performed in December 2021, and the remainder in February 2022.

On February 3, 2022, the AOC issued a memo announcing a second opportunity for courts throughout the state to apply for grant monies (FY 2023) for court security improvements. After receiving a quote from Vendor for \$30,773.91 to tint the south-facing windows, the Court applied for a second grant on March 23, 2022. On June 6, 2022, the AOC awarded the Court a grant in the amount of \$30,774.00.

Discussion

A security issue identified by the Assessment can be remedied by the recommended security tinting of the Courthouse.

Alternatives

The alternative is to reject the awarded \$30,774.00 in grant funds and then seek to use budget dollars to fund the completion of the tinting. The Court currently does not have monies specifically allocated for this security improvement. Taking no action whatsoever would continue to pose a security risk.

Fiscal Impact

Accepting the awarded \$30,774.00 in grant funds would benefit the City of Mesa and the Court, as the tinting blocks over 80% of the UV rays and heat, which will save the City in electricity costs. Notably, since tinting the north-, west-, and east-facing windows, the Court has saved an average of 37,692-kw of electricity per month compared to the previous 5 years with no tinting. Accordingly, the tinting is estimated to save the City 452,304 kw per year, which equates to 2.25 months of usage in the Court building.