



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 12

Agenda Date: October 12, 2023

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Police Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: William McManus, Chief of Police

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

An ordinance authorizing the acceptance of funds, upon award, for the 2023 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and authorizing an Interlocal Agreement with Bexar County.

SUMMARY:

An ordinance authorizing the acceptance of funds, upon award, for the 2023 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for a Child Welfare Strategic Alliance Program, a City/County project addressing child sexual abuse/assault not to exceed \$397,684.00 and authorizing an Interlocal Agreement with Bexar County regarding the distribution of grant funds and designating Bexar County as the grant fiscal agent; establishing a personnel complement and appropriating a budget; the grant period will be from October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2026.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Justice Assistance Grants were first awarded in 2005. Provisions of the grant require the City and Bexar County to submit a joint application. The purpose of the project is to conduct joint investigations with the Bexar County Sheriff's Office, the District Attorney's Office, the Bexar County Housing and Human Services Department, the Texas Department of Family and Protective

Services, Christus Santa Rosa Children's Hospital, and ChildSafe.

The funds for the 2023 JAG grant will be used to continue supporting the joint City/County project called Child Welfare Strategic Alliance Program as follows. The total joint grant amount for the City and Bexar County is \$994,211.00 (\$94,695.00 more than FY2022). Of this amount, \$596,527.00 is allocated to Bexar County and \$397,684.00 is allocated to the City. The grant period is October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2026.

The City's portion of the grant will be used to continue to fund two (2) Detective Investigator positions. These Detective Investigators will investigate sexual abuse/assault cases involving children. Tasked with the investigation of more than 28 different offenses, a large portion of the Special Victims Unit's caseload involves children as victims.

The County will utilize the FY2023 JAG grant to continue funding positions currently funded by the existing JAG programs that include problem solving courts, jail diversion, and victim advocacy. The majority of the funds will go to fund various positions (Adult & Juvenile Probation Officers, Prosecutors, Court Case Managers, etc.) in the Bexar County Drug Courts, the Bexar County District Attorney's Office, and the Juvenile and Adult Probation Offices.

Bexar County, acting as the Fiscal Agent for this grant, was responsible for submitting the grant application and all certifications, the administration of the funds, including distributing the funds, monitoring the award, submitting reports including performance measures and program assessment data.

On September 19, 2023, the Public Safety Committee approved this grant to move forward to the full City Council for consideration.

ISSUE:

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of funds, upon award, for the 2023 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for a Child Welfare Strategic Alliance Program, a City/County project addressing child sexual abuse/assault not to exceed \$397,684.00 and authorizing an Interlocal Agreement with Bexar County regarding the distribution of grant funds and designating Bexar County as the grant fiscal agent.

ALTERNATIVES:

No alternatives.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total joint grant amount for the City and Bexar County is \$994,211.00. Of this amount, \$596,527.00 is allocated to Bexar County and \$397,684.00 is allocated to the City. The grant

period is October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2026.

There is no cash or in-kind match required.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the acceptance of the grant funds and the execution of an Interlocal Agreement with Bexar County.