

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT

BACKGROUND:

On May 27, 2014, the Council authorized the Police Department to apply for the 2014 Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. The grant conditions required that the application be filed jointly with Story County and the Council approved entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with Story County. The application and the Memorandum of Understanding were completed and submitted. Last month the Department of Justice notified the City that the grant had been awarded in full.

Grant funds can be used for state and local initiatives, technical assistance, training, personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, and information systems for criminal justice, as well as research and evaluation activities that will improve or enhance law enforcement programs related to criminal justice.

The grant award is for \$20,565 and the Police Department proposes to use the funds to purchase equipment. With officer safety and effective resource management as goals for this year's grant, grant funds will be used to acquire and/or replace tactical body armor, protective helmets and shields for police officers. In addition, grant funds will be used to acquire two new mobile computers for police command staff to facilitate communication and management functions. There is no match requirement with this grant.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Accept the 2014 Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, and Bureau of Justice Assistance Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program and authorize the Police Department to participate in the program.
2. Do not authorize participation in this grant program.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The Police Department has participated in the JAG grant program in the past and the program has proven to be a valuable source of funds for special purchases and programs. This grant will provide the same benefit.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as stated above.