

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: 2017 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT

BACKGROUND:

On August 4, 2017, the Ames Police Department received notice that it was eligible for grant funds through the 2017 Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. The Police Department developed a proposed project for use of these funds and on September 5, 2017, the Police Department submitted an application for this grant. An award will not be made until the application and grant conditions are approved by the City Council.

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.

Because the Story County Sheriff provides jail services for the county, the grant conditions require that the Sheriff participate in the grant application for funding under this JAG program. The Police Department proposes that the City enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Story County for acquisition and use of the funds.

Total funding potentially available to the Ames Police Department and the Story County Sheriff's Office through this grant offering is \$11,119. **This year the two law enforcement agencies propose to use the funds in a project to enhance the capabilities and expertise in mental health and wellness.**

If awarded, grant funds will be used to:

1. Support an extension of the concepts of the City's Healthy4Life program targeting employee health improvements. This will involve the City's Wellness Coordinator and will focus these concepts specifically on the 24/7 law enforcement environment.
2. Support two training activities: a. Two individuals will attend a national mental health crisis intervention conference designed to provide advanced training on issues affecting mental health. b. Train one individual from Human Resources on Yoga for First Responders through a train-the-trainer event. This will then allow offering classes to local law enforcement personnel.
3. Finally, the grant will fund the furnishings necessary to allow the Mental Health Advocate's office space to also serve as a "quiet space" in the Police Department. This will allow for 24/7 use of the advocate's space for mental health related activities. Local funds will be used to support supervision of the room, information about stress and healthy lifestyles, and alternative nutrition to improve wellness. Grant funds will be used to purchase office equipment necessary to redesign the space and relocate some of the existing parking technology and staff members into the media management room.

The conditions of this year's grant require that the City certify that there is no conflict between the City's actions and federal policies as established by 8 U.S.C. section 1373 (Communication between government agencies and the Immigration and Naturalization Service). In general, 8 U.S.C. section 1373 provides that provisions of local law may not prohibit, or in any way restrict, any government entity or official from sending to, or receiving from, the Immigration and Naturalization Service information regarding the citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual. The certification requires that the City Attorney review the provisions of 8 U.S.C. section 1373 at attest to the following statement:

As of the date of this certification, neither the jurisdiction nor any entity, agency or official of the jurisdiction has in effect, purports to have in effect, or is subject to or bound by, any prohibition or any restriction that would apply to the "program or activity" to be funded in whole or in part under the FY 2017 OJP Program (which for purposes of this paragraph 6, shall not be understood to include any such "program or activity" of any subrecipient at any tier) and deals with either – (1) a government entity or official sending or receiving information regarding citizenship or immigration status as described in 8 U.S.C. section 1373(a); or (2) a government entity or agency sending to, requesting from, maintaining, or exchanging information of the types (and with respect to the entities) described in 8 U.S.C. section 1373(b).

The City Attorney has reviewed this issue and has determined that no conflict exists. The Chief Executive of the applicant agency must also certify the review has occurred and accept the findings of the City Attorney. These materials are included as attachments to this Council Action Form with the most relevant information highlighted.

There is no match requirement with this grant.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve a Memorandum of Understanding with Story County for use of grant funding under the 2017 Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, and authorize the Police Department to accept that grant should it be awarded.
2. Do not approve the agreement with Story County or participation in the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

JAG funds have been used productively during the past few years to purchase equipment and provide training. The program has proven to be a valuable source of funds for special purchases and programs.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving an agreement with Story County to accept funding under the 2017 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, and authorizing the Police Department to utilize the grant funds, if awarded, as described above.