

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: BULLETPROOF VEST GRANT APPLICATION

BACKGROUND:

The Police Department again desires to apply for funding from the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bulletproof Vest Partnership program. This program provides funds to local law enforcement agencies to support the purchase of new and replacement bulletproof vests for individual officers. This protective device is critical to the safety of police officers.

Bulletproof vests have a life cycle of approximately five-years. The Police Department has a rotating schedule for replacement of vests. Due to attrition, new officers are also added to the force; and because vests are tailored to the individual officer, new vests must then be purchased. During the period of this grant, scheduled replacement calls for the acquisition or replacement of 18 vests.

The estimated cost for all vests is \$13,752 (estimated at \$764 per vest for 18 vests). The program provides 50% of the purchase price for vests that meet DOJ standards, and local agencies must provide the other 50%. The 2010-11 Police Department budget was constructed with the anticipation that we would apply for and receive a Bulletproof Vest Partnership grant. The 2010 grant application is due by June 1, 2010.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the Police Department's application to and participation in the Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs Bulletproof Vest Partnership program.
2. Do not approve the Police Department's application to the Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs Bulletproof Vest Partnership program.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Bulletproof vests are an indispensable piece of safety equipment for police officers. Historically, the Police Department has successfully participated in this program with the U.S. Department of Justice to provide protection to our local officers. Participation allows the City to provide the best product to our officers in a financially responsible way.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the Police Department's application to and participation in the Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs Bulletproof Vest Partnership program.