

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE 2010 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT**

**BACKGROUND:**

On June 22, 2010, the City Council approved the Police Department's request to apply for the 2010 Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG). The grant conditions required that the application be filed jointly with the Story County Sheriff's Office, and the Council approved entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Sheriff's Office. The application and the Memorandum of Understanding were then completed and submitted. In late August, the Department of Justice notified the Police Department 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.

Total funding available to the Ames Police Department through this grant offering is \$34,689. The Police Department proposes to use the funds for equipment purchases. Building on the program already established by the department, a portion of the grant funds would be used to upgrade and expand the in-car digital video recording system. The department would also purchase an outdoor portable video recording system. The department has been able to borrow a similar unit from a state agency in the past and has thus proven its usefulness. The grant would also allow the department to purchase 7 ballistic shields for use in tactically challenging situations. Finally, a smaller portion of the grant would be used to purchase 14 new technology flashlights that recharge to full capacity in 90 seconds. Six of those flashlights would be allocated to the Sheriff's Office for their use. There is no match requirement with this grant.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Accept the 2010 Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, and Bureau of Justice Assistance Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) and authorize the Police Department to participate in this 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 latest grant will provide the same benefit.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby accepting the 2010 Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) and authorizing the Police Department to participate in this program.