

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: 2018 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT

BACKGROUND:

On July 23, 2018, the Ames Police Department received notice that it is eligible for grant funds through the 2018 Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. Applications are due August 22, 2018.

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 the 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 \$11,334. This year the two law enforcement agencies propose to use the funds in a project to improve security and access to the local public safety network. The public safety network provides dispatching, vehicle location, communications, report writing, jail management, and data management functions. The network includes the Ames Police Department, the Story County Sheriff's Office, Story County Conservation officers, and Iowa State University Police. Other emergency response agencies, including Ames Fire and Mary Greeley Medical Center, utilize the mobile dispatch and vehicle location functions of the public safety network.

Access to the network is currently regulated by the participating agencies through the use of NetMotion, a software application that manages both connectivity and security. Since the origin of the network, each of the agencies has managed access from outside the network, independent of each other. As the network has become more complex, members have determined that centralized management of this function will enhance security, standardize procedures, provide redundancy for all agencies, and coordinate and balance network access. Funding available from this grant will be used to hire a consulting service to review, recommend and implement needed security upgrades and to purchase the additional software necessary to achieve that goal.

The conditions of this year's grant require that the City Attorney and the Chief Executive of the City certify that there is no conflict between the City's actions and certain federal policies, most notably those policies that deal with communication between local government agencies and the Department of Homeland Security including Immigration and Customs Enforcement. **First introduced as a requirement of last year's grant, the City Attorney has reviewed these**

required certifications and assurances to determine that no conflict exists. These materials are included as an attachment to this Council Action Form.

There is no match requirement with this grant.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve a Memorandum of Understanding with Story County to apply for grant funding under the 2018 Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, and authorize application for that grant.
2. Do not approve the agreement with the Story County or the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program grant application.

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 develop and apply for a grant funding under the 2018 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, and authorizing application for that grant.