

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: 2020 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT

BACKGROUND:

On July 9, 2020, the Ames Police Department received notice that it is eligible for grant funds through the 2019 Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. Applications are due August 19, 2020.

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 Sheriff 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 \$12,528.00. This year the two law enforcement agencies propose to use the funds in a project to purchase a variety of equipment including:

- Several new bicycles to support the bicycle officer program
- Supporting equipment, including lights and bags, for these new bikes and updates to several existing bikes
- Protective clothing for bicycle officers
- Specialized radio equipment, such as bluetooth enabled microphones.
- Soft stretchers and other emergency medical response equipment for police medical trauma kits.

The grant requires that the Mayor sign a certifications and assurances document indicating that the City will abide by the grant terms and conditions. The City Attorney's Office is reviewing that document and the associated terms to determine if there are any concerns.

There is no match required with this grant.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Story County to apply for grant funding under the 2020 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.

CITY 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 2020 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, and authorizing application for that grant.