



REQUEST FOR ACTION

U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing (COPS) Hiring Program Grant

MEETING DATE:
December 4, 2023

ORIGINATING DEPT:
Rochester Police
Department

AGENDA SECTION:
Consent Agenda

PRESENTER:
Chief Franklin

Action Requested:

Adopting a Resolution accepting a FY 2023 COPS Hiring Program Grant and executing an agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services for the hiring of officers.

Report Narrative:

In May of 2023, the police department submitted a Request for Council action asking for support from the council to submit a DOJ COPS grant application for the hiring of additional law enforcement officers to support community policing initiatives for the proposed Link Rapid Transit project. The council approved the submission.

The department was recently notified by the U.S. Attorney General that our application was approved for an award in the amount of \$875,000 to support the hiring of additional officers for the community policing initiative. The match required for the grant will come from transit funds.

There is a five year performance period for the grant. The period of performance for the grant is five years to accommodate the hiring process. The cost of the officers following completion of the grant program is contemplated in the operating service agreement that the City has entered into with Mayo Clinic and all assumptions of the operating cost of the system once operational. Accepting the grant will assure timely hiring, and better planning as the Link Rapid Transit system construction is finalized, because the officers will be hired in advance of the final system start and can help to provide transit and community policing in the transit coverage area sooner.

Priorities & Foundational Principles:

Public Safety
Quality Services

Policy Considerations & DEI Impact:

The grant will help the City provide for the safety and security of the Link Rapid Transit project. The grant will increase the police departments community policing capacity.

Prior Legislative Actions & Community Engagement:

May 15, 2023 - Item F.17 - The council approved the submission of a COPS grant to support the hiring of 7 additional officers to provide for the safety and security of the proposed Link Rapid Transit BRT route.

Fiscal & Resource Impact:

Acceptance of the grant will enable the City to receive federal assistance with increasing the police department's community policing capacity for the Link Rapid Transit project. The federal share of the grant is \$875,000. The local match is \$1,199,233, which will come from transit funds. Additional funding for uniforms, vehicles, etc. will also come from transit funds.

All grant recipients must retain any CHP funded officer positions awarded for at least 12 months immediately after federal funding has ended for each position.

As part of the local match requirement for the COPS Hiring Program, grantees must assume a progressively larger share of the cost of the grant with local funds over a three-year period. This means that the local match must increase each year, while the federal share must decrease.

If awarded funding, the COPS office may approve an award for hiring fewer officers than requested in an application and Post Award Modifications may be required.

Alternative Action(s):

Alternative Actions are not recommended.

Prepared By:

Sarah Clayton

Attachments:

[Letter - Fiscal year 2023 COPS Hiring Program Grant Award](#)

[Resolution - Fiscal year 2023 COPS Hiring Program Grant Award](#)