



Legislation Text

File #: 24-044, Version: 1

Report Prepared by: Lance Eber, Crime Analyst, Police

SUBJECT: Approval to Accept the Department of Justice 2023 Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant in the Amount of \$8,036.98 to Cover 50% of the Purchase Cost of New Vests and Authorization to Utilize the Use of Pooled Cash to Cover the Purchase Cost Which will be Reimbursed from the Grant Proceeds

REPORT IN BRIEF

Considers approving to accept grant award for reimbursement of bulletproof vest expenses.

RECOMMENDATION

City Council - Adopt a motion:

- A. Accepting the grant; and,
- B. Authorizing the use of pooled cash to cover the appropriation until grant funds are reimbursed; and,
- C. Authorizing the Finance Officer to make the necessary budget transfers; and,
- D. Authorizing the City Manager to execute the necessary documents.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Approve, as recommended by Staff; or,
2. Deny; or,
3. Refer back to Staff for recommendation of specific items (specific items to be addressed in the motion).

AUTHORITY

Charter of the City of Merced, Section 200.

CITY COUNCIL PRIORITIES

As provided for in the 2023-24 Adopted Budget.

DISCUSSION

In May 2023, the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) announced that the Fiscal Year 2023 Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Program application period was open. The BVP covers 50% of the costs of purchasing new bulletproof vests for the officers. The City of Merced Police Department (MPD) submitted its application that same month.

The BJA awarded the MPD on October 2, 2023, grant funding in the amount of \$8,036.98. There are no agreements/contracts that need to be signed. Grant funds are added to the remaining balance available in our account at BJA from previous years' grant balances. The MPD budget accounts for regular replacement of vests as part of its annual budget and will absorb the upfront cost 100%. This is a reimbursement program, so funds will be expended up front and reimbursement requests are submitted by the MPD to BJA as expenses are incurred throughout the grant period.

The MPD has received funding from BJA for the BVP program for many consecutive years. City Council has approved accepting the grant funding each of those years.

IMPACT ON CITY RESOURCES

No appropriation is needed; grant funding is included in the fiscal year 2023-24 adopted budget in Fund 2001-Measure C Police BJA Bulletproof Vest Grant. Staff is requesting that Council accept the grant award and allow the use of pooled cash until reimbursement from the grant is received.

Each vest carries an upfront cost of approximately \$1,100 (depending on model). The City is required to provide bullet proof vests to all police officers whether grant funding is available or not. This BVP grant will help offset 50% of the cost of bullet proof vests purchased by the City.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Grant System Award Notification