

Agenda Report



MEETING DATE: Tuesday, June 11, 2024

TO: City Council

FROM: POLICE CHIEF ZAMORA

SUBJECT: ALCOHOL POLICING PARTNERSHIP (APP) PROGRAM

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager or her designee to accept the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, FY 2024/2025 Alcohol Policing Partnership (APP) Program grant in the amount of \$62,021, to reduce crime and public nuisance problems associated with alcohol beverage outlets, and to execute all required documents, future amendments, if any, and appropriate funds to the grant budget.

BACKGROUND:

In 1995, the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) embarked on a new and innovative approach to broaden and increase the level of alcoholic beverage law enforcement by partnering with cities and counties through a grant assistance project. The mission of the Alcohol Policing Partnership Program is to work with law enforcement agencies to develop an effective, comprehensive, and strategic approach to eliminating the crime and public nuisance problems associated with problem alcoholic beverage outlets and then institutionalize those approaches within the local police agency.

DISCUSSION:

Budget reductions at the state and local level greatly reduced law enforcement staff assigned to alcoholic beverage law enforcement. Many of the state's police and sheriff's departments re-prioritized their missions and diverted their ABC-related enforcement resources to other areas like patrol. There's now a strong movement by cities and communities for more regulation and education to prevent crime as it relates to the increasing number of alcohol outlets.

The main goals of the program are to:

- (a) Establish closer relationships between ABC district offices and the grant agencies;
- (b) Target licensed outlets that cause alcohol-related crimes;
- (c) Reduce alcohol related disorder issues; and
- (d) Maintain a training program that addresses alcohol related issues.

The Watsonville Police Department (WPD) is committed to the grant's goals and objectives. Some of the objectives include identifying and targeting problematic

establishments, minor decoy operations, shoulder tap operations and training for local law enforcement. In addition, the WPD will be coordinating Informed Merchants Preventing Alcohol Related Crime Tendencies (IMPACT) operations to ensure that retailers are compliant with state laws, ABC license conditions and the City's alcohol ordinance. Retail licensees will also have the opportunity to attend a Licensee Education on Alcohol and Drug (LEAD) Program which is a voluntary prevention program that provides high quality, effective, and educationally sound training on alcohol responsibility and the law.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

Approval of the APP program grant is consistent with the Strategic Plan Goal 05-Public Safety. The APP grant supports the goal by focusing its efforts on problematic licensed outlets that cause crime in an effort to reduce alcohol-related disorders.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The APP program grant in the amount of \$62,021 does not require local match funds and has no financial impact to the General Fund.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION:

The City Council may choose to not accept these grant funds, but enforcement of alcohol-related issues and problematic alcohol outlets will continue to be sporadic as time allows and funded through general fund rather than alternative revenue sources.

ATTACHMENTS AND/OR REFERENCES (If any):

None.