



# Agenda Report

**MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, November 9, 2021

**TO:** City Council

**FROM:** INTERIM POLICE CHIEF SIMS

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE FY 2021 EDWARD BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21,767**

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## **STATEMENT OF ISSUES:**

Resolution accepting and appropriating the FY 21 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Grant in the amount of \$21,767 to fund crime analysis software.

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager or his designee to accept the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program FY 2021-2022 in the amount of \$21,767 to fund crime analysis software, and to execute all required documents, future non-substantive amendments, if any, and appropriate the funds to the grant budget.

## **DISCUSSION:**

The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program is the primary provider of federal criminal justice funding to states and units of local government. The Federal Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) recognizes that many state and local criminal justice systems currently face challenging fiscal environments and that an important, cost-effective way to relieve those pressures is to share or leverage resources through cooperation among federal, state and local law enforcement. BJA provides support through the JAG Program which provides critical funding necessary to support a range of program areas. Applicants are limited to units of local government appearing on the FY 2021-2022 JAG Allocations List. The City of Watsonville's allocation is \$21,767.

## **Purpose Areas**

JAG funds may be used for state and local initiatives, technical assistance, strategic planning, research and evaluation (including forensics), data collection, training, personnel, equipment, forensic laboratories, supplies, and contractual support, and criminal justice information systems that will improve or enhance:

- Law enforcement programs
- Prosecution and court programs, including indigent defense

- Prevention and education programs
- Corrections and community corrections programs
- Drug treatment and enforcement programs
- Planning, evaluation, and technology improvement programs
- Crime victim and witness programs (other than compensation)
- Mental health programs and related law enforcement and correction programs

The Watsonville Police Department (WPD) is proposing using the grant funds to continue funding crime analysis software. Crime analysis has become an essential tool in law enforcement efforts to enhance public safety, identify emerging trends, allocate resources and plan crime prevention strategies. The software will increase the effectiveness of the strategies and help the crime analyst with gathering crime data, pattern analysis, crime mapping, predictive analytics and with disseminating reports to the officers in order to respond more swiftly and appropriately to emergent public safety issues.

Staff recommends City Council approval in the acceptance of the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program for FY 2021 in the amount of \$21,767 to continue funding crime analysis software.

**STRATEGIC PLAN:**

The FY 2021 JAG Grant supports the Strategic Plan Goal 06-Public Safety.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

This grant does not require local match funds and has no financial impact to the general fund.

**ALTERNATIVE ACTION:**

No reasonable alternatives are known at this time.

**ATTACHMENTS AND/OR REFERENCES (If any):**

None.