

County of Santa Clara Office of the Sheriff



SO02 062409

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County Executive
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Director of Administrative Services

DATE: June 24, 2009

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laurie Smith".

Laurie Smith
Sheriff

SUBJECT: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act - Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Application

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Consider recommendations relating to the Office of Justice Program's Bureau of Justice Assistance FY 09 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Application.

Possible action:

- a. Ratify Grant Application submitted by the Office of the Sheriff to the U.S. Bureau of Justice Assistance relating to grant funding for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA): Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program with the goal of reducing and preventing crime through increased analysis and investigation

in the amount of \$782,866 for period July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2011.

- b. Approve delegation of authority to the Sheriff, or designee, to accept grant funds, and negotiate, execute and terminate any necessary contracts, amendments, annual renewals or extensions relating to the ARRA Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$782,866 for period July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2011, following approval by County Counsel as to form and legality, and approval by the County Executive. Delegation of authority shall expire on June 30, 2011.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no adverse impact to the General Fund as there is no match required by the County of Santa Clara. The total amount of the funding requested was \$782,866 and is intended to cover a period of two years. It is unknown at this time when the funds will be made available by the U.S. Department of Justice.

The grant allocation will fund the training, equipment, and salary and benefit costs of three new unclassified management analyst positions assigned to assist the Sheriff's Office in the apprehension and arrest of criminals, and solving crimes through the application of analysis, intelligence sharing, and coordination of data. While the grant states that priority will be given to those applications demonstrating that positions created with ARRA funding can be sustained beyond the two-year grant period, the grant does not mandate that the County continue funding the positions after the grant period ends. In the event that grant funding is no longer available, the Sheriff's Office will determine the feasibility of incorporating the management analyst positions within its existing staff offset with other revenue. The management analyst positions will be deleted if the Sheriff's Office budget is unable to sustain the costs.

CONTRACT HISTORY

There is no contract history associated with this grant opportunity.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

On April 4, 2005, the Board of Supervisors approved a countywide process for grant applications. Requests for grant applications over \$250,000 must be made to the Board of Supervisors. Departments are required to seek retroactive approvals from the relevant approving authority when it had not been feasible to receive approval prior to applying for the grant. In this instance, due to the imposed time constraints for submission of the application set by the funding agency, the Office of the Sheriff was unable to seek prior approval.

Pursuant to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), the U.S. Department of Justice was allocated \$225 million in Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program funding to support units of local government in their efforts to prevent and control crime, improve the criminal justice system, and ensure job growth and retention. The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) administers these funds on a competitive application process.

The grant identified eight possible categories to apply for. The Sheriff's Office applied for Category IV, ARRA Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program funding. Grants solicited under Category IV are to provide the funds associated with hiring civilian staff in law enforcement agencies "to support sworn law enforcement with the goal of making sworn law enforcement more available on the street in an effort to reduce and prevent crime." Under Category IV, law enforcement agencies may use civilian crime and intelligence analysts, dispatchers, and training staff to augment their workforce. The Sheriff's Office proposal includes a request for \$782,866 to hire three FTE Management Analyst positions for a two-year period to assist with the apprehension and arrest of criminals, and solving crimes through the application of analysis, intelligence sharing, and coordination of data. The management analysts would be assigned as

follows: one would work exclusively on gang-related crime and intelligence gathering; one would work in the Sheriff's Special Operations division on human trafficking, narcotics, and organized crime; and the third would be assigned to perform crime mapping, and analysis and research on pattern general and person crimes.

BACKGROUND

The ARRA places great emphasis on accountability and transparency, which expands upon the Office of Justice Program's standard grant reporting requirements. In particular, 1512 (c) of the ARRA set out detailed requirements for quarterly reports that must be submitted within 10 days of the end of each calendar quarter, starting July 10, 2009. Receipt of funds will be contingent on meeting the ARRA reporting requirements. The Sheriff's Office acknowledges this emphasis and is committed to meeting these additional grant requirements. The Sheriff's Office has shared the appropriate documents with the Office of Intergovernmental Relations for posting to the County's website. If an award is received, the Sheriff's Office will advise the Office of the County Executive and share copies of its quarterly progress reports.

The Sheriff's Office Crime Analysis Unit and crime analyst were eliminated during the Fiscal Year 2006 budget reduction. The ARRA proposal is intended to create three new management analyst positions engaged in crime analysis, thus providing employment opportunities for unemployed crime analysts, or individuals slated for layoff. Creation of these positions will enhance the Sheriff's Office's ability to apprehend and arrest criminals, and solve serious crimes through the application of analysis, intelligence sharing, and coordination of data, resulting in safer communities.

If the Sheriff's Office's application is successful, the proposed management analysts and one existing management analyst will form the Crime Analysis Reduction and Eradication (CARE) Unit. CARE will entail an effort by the Sheriff's Office to coordinate agency and countywide crime data in a manner that will result in the reduction of crime, especially the type of crime illustrated by prison and street gangs, narcotic trafficking organizations and organized crime syndicates involved in human trafficking. Implementation of the CARE Program will result in the creation of three new management analyst jobs for 24 months.

Program activities will include the analysis of data gathered from criminal investigations to link the principals involved in the criminal groups in order to show conspiracy and relationships. Additionally, data will be used to provide analysis of crimes, show pattern relationships and will lead to enhanced deployment of resources in an effort to better prevent and investigate crime. The program will follow the best practices as identified by the California Crime and Intelligence Analysts Association and the International Association of Crime Analysis.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

The Sheriff's Office will withdraw its application to pursue the ARRA grant available through the BJA for creating three new Management Analyst positions assigned to assist Sheriff's Office badge personnel with combating dangerous street and prison gangs, illegal narcotics organizations, human trafficking, and personal and property crimes.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors is requested to notify Michelle Sandoval, Senior Management Analyst-Office of the Sheriff once Keyboard processing is completed.