

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: OCTOBER 7, 2004

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PHILIP SUNDERLAND, CITY MANAGER *ps*

SUBJECT: RECEIPT OF ONE-TIME GRANT FROM VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES FOR POLICE EQUIPMENT

ISSUE: City Council consideration of a one-time grant award from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to be used for police equipment.

RECOMMENDATIONS: That City Council:

- (1) Approve and accept the grant award in the amount of \$28,815, of which the State share or 75% is \$21,611, and the local share is 25% or \$7,204, to be funded from the Police Department's FY 2005 operating budget; and
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents.

DISCUSSION: In August, 2004, the Virginia DCJS notified the City of a special one-time grant allocation of federal funds for Alexandria, to be used for police equipment. The grant funds originated from unspent Byrne Formula Grant monies made available to the State in a previous fiscal year. The purpose of the one-time grant award is to provide local law enforcement agencies with additional resources to: 1) improve their capabilities for detecting, deterring, disrupting and preventing acts of terrorism; or 2) purchase equipment, supplies, or other support services related to community policing, law enforcement or crime prevention. The grant funds must be expended by December 31, 2004.

Alexandria's award allocation is \$21,611, with a required City match of \$7,204, or 25 percent of the total expended through this grant, which can be funded from the FY 2005 Police Department operating budget. Police staff would use this grant to procure the following equipment: two citizen message boards used to provide road-side notifications for numerous types of events; nine radio headsets, digital cameras, binoculars and inspection mirrors to enhance surveillance and inspection capabilities; and five TDD machines for the hearing impaired to send and receive text communications when contacting the Police Communications Center.

FISCAL IMPACT: The total grant award is \$28,815, of which the DCJS would provide \$21,611 for police equipment. The City share of \$7,204, or 25 percent will be absorbed from the FY 2005 Police Department operating budget. This is a one-time grant award and there are no additional City resources to maintain or replace grant-funded equipment at the end of its useful life. The estimated fiscal impact of the requested equipment would be \$17,000 for two citizen message notification boards, \$3,300 for five TDD machines, \$3,400 for 9 hands-free radio headsets, \$3,565 for 9 digital cameras, and \$1,550 for binoculars and inspection mirrors.

The Police Department has submitted this grant to the State in order to meet the deadline of October 1, 2004 with the understanding that subsequent City Council authorization would be required to accept this grant award.

ATTACHMENTS: None. The grant application may be reviewed in the Office of Management and Budget, room 3600, City Hall during normal working hours.

STAFF:

Charles Samarra, Chief of Police
Michele Evans, Assistant City Manager
Tim Dickinson, Captain, Special Operations
Amy Flenniken, Division Chief, Police Fiscal Management
Alfred Coleman, Budget/Management Analyst, OMB