



Memorandum

Date: 10/18/2022

Meeting of: Committee of the Whole - Public Safety and Human Services

File No. CM 22-638

Type: Committee Memo

TO: Committee of the Whole - Public Safety and Human Services

FROM: Mayor Angela Birney

DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR CONTACT(S):

Police	Chief Darrell Lowe	425-556-2529
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DEPARTMENT STAFF:

Police	Brian Coats	Operations Captain
Police	Rena Thompson	Department Administrative Coordinator

TITLE:

Accept \$28,187 Department of Justice Patrick Leahy Bullet Proof Vest Partnership Grant

OVERVIEW STATEMENT:

The Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP), created by the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 1998 is a unique U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) initiative designed to provide a critical resource to state and local law enforcement. The police department began receiving funds from this grant in 1999 to off-set the cost of vest issuance and replacement. Bulletproof vests are now more commonly referred to as ballistic vests or body armor.

Each year, the Police Department submits a forecast report to the DOJ grant program, estimating the approximate number of new and replacement vests for the year. The estimate is based on the five-year life cycle of the vests and the addition of new officers. This year, the department projected a need to purchase approximately 50 new and replacement vests. The DOJ BVP Grant allotted a reimbursement to the city in the amount of \$28,187.10 for 2022.

The DOJ grant award fluctuates from year to year based on the number of vests the department expects to purchase. Previous awards have ranged anywhere from \$700 to \$28,000 since the department began participating with this federal program. The department is seeking Council’s approval to accept this annual grant award and would like to clarify whether this is an item needing Council attention on an annual basis.

Additional Background Information/Description of Proposal Attached

REQUESTED ACTION:

Receive Information

Provide Direction

Approve

REQUEST RATIONALE:

- **Relevant Plans/Policies:**
N/A
- **Required:**
Council approval is required for grant acceptance.
- **Council Request:**
N/A
- **Other Key Facts:**
N/A

OUTCOMES:

Per department policy, officers are required to wear body armor whenever they can reasonably be expected to take enforcement action. Body armor, when used in conjunction with prescribed officer safety procedures reduces the likelihood of officers being killed or seriously injured.

The department ensures that all new officers are issued form fitting, agency approved body armor. The department's training unit maintains a replacement schedule for every officer's assigned vest as each vest expires five years from issuance. Replacement vests are also purchased whenever the body armor becomes worn or damaged to the point its effectiveness or functionality has been compromised.

In 2022, the projected cost to purchase a new or replacement vest is \$1,473 each.

COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT:

- **Timeline (previous or planned):**
Funding for 2022 was announced on September 21, 2022
- **Outreach Methods and Results:**
N/A
- **Feedback Summary:**
N/A

BUDGET IMPACT:

Total Cost:

The projected cost of the vests for this fiscal year is approximately \$56,374.20.

Approved in current biennial budget: Yes No N/A

Budget Offer Number:

N/A

Budget Priority:

Safe and Resilient

Other budget impacts or additional costs: Yes No N/A

If yes, explain:

N/A

Funding source(s):

Department of Justice Patrick Leahy Bullet Proof Vest Partnership Grant

Budget/Funding Constraints:

N/A

Additional budget details attached

COUNCIL REVIEW:

Previous Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
N/A	Item has not been presented to Council	Receive Information

Proposed Upcoming Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
10/18/2022	Committee of the Whole - Public Safety and Human Services	Receive Information

Time Constraints:

N/A

ANTICIPATED RESULT IF NOT APPROVED:

The Police Department will be responsible for the full cost of the bullet proof vests.

ATTACHMENTS:

None