



## Memorandum

**Date:** 9/16/2025  
**Meeting of:** City Council

**File No.** AM No. 25-127  
**Type:** Consent Item

**TO:** Members of the City Council  
**FROM:** Mayor Angela Birney  
**DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR CONTACT(S):**

Planning and Community Development	Carol Helland	425-556-2107
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**DEPARTMENT STAFF:**

Planning and Community Development	Seraphie Allen	Deputy Director
Planning and Community Development	Brooke Buckingham	Human Services Manager

**TITLE:**

Approval to Accept Simple Possession Advocacy Representation (SPAR) Grant

**OVERVIEW STATEMENT:**

The state provides grant funding to reimburse cities for public defense costs incurred in the representation of adults charged with misdemeanor drug possession or public use offense. The City recently applied for and was awarded a \$6,000 SPAR grant to cover eligible costs.

☒ **Additional Background Information/Description of Proposal Attached**

**REQUESTED ACTION:**

☐ **Receive Information**      ☐ **Provide Direction**      ☒ **Approve**

**REQUEST RATIONALE:**

- **Relevant Plans/Policies:**  
RCW 2.70.200
- **Required:**  
Grant acceptance requires Council approval.
- **Council Request:**  
N/A
- **Other Key Facts:**  
N/A

**OUTCOMES:**

The City is required to pay for public defense services. Leveraging additional funding sources such as SPAR offsets the total costs incurred by the City.

**COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT:**

- **Timeline (previous or planned):**  
N/A
- **Outreach Methods and Results:**  
N/A
- **Feedback Summary:**  
N/A

**BUDGET IMPACT:**

**Total Cost:**  
\$6000

**Approved in current biennial budget:** ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A

**Budget Offer Number:**  
0000276 Criminal Justice

**Budget Priority:**  
Safe and Resilient

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

***If yes, explain:***  
N/A

**Funding source(s):**  
General Fund

**Budget/Funding Constraints:**

Grant period is July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. A qualifying offense is a misdemeanor offense under RCW 69.50.4011(1)(b) or (c), 69.50.4013, 69.50.4014, 69.41.030(2), (b), or (c); or a charge of a misdemeanor offense under a local ordinance involving allegations of possession or public use of a controlled substance, counterfeit substance, or legend drug.

☐ **Additional budget details attached**

**COUNCIL REVIEW:**

**Previous Contact(s)**

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
9/2/2025	Committee of the Whole - Planning and Public Works	Provide Direction

**Proposed Upcoming Contact(s)**

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
	None proposed at this time	N/A

**Time Constraints:**

Timely approval will allow the City to proceed with contracting and invoicing.

**ANTICIPATED RESULT IF NOT APPROVED:**

Loss of grant funding.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment A: SPAR Agreement