



CITY OF OAKLAND

AGENDA REPORT

TO: Edward D. Reiskin
City Administrator

FROM: LeRonne L. Armstrong
Chief of Police

SUBJECT: 2022 USDOJ/COPS Grant
Acceptance

DATE: October 27, 2022

City Administrator Approval

Date: Oct 28, 2022

RECOMMENDATION

Staff Recommends That The City Council Approve A Resolution Authorizing The City Administrator To: (1) Accept And Appropriate Grant Funds In An Amount Not To Exceed One Million Eight Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$1,875,000) From The U.S. Department Of Justice, Office Of Community Oriented Policing Services (USDOJ/COPS) To Fund The Entry-Level Salary And Fringe Benefits Costs Of Fifteen (15) Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Police Officers And Appropriate The Funds To The Oakland Police Department (OPD); (2) Authorize An Appropriation Of Thirteen Million Thirty Three Thousand Four Hundred and Nineteen Dollars (\$13,033,419) To Cover The Local Match Requirement; And (3) Authorize The General Purpose Fund To Subsidize The Central Services Overhead Costs Of Nine Hundred Ninety-Two Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$992,700) For A Total City Of Oakland Contribution Of Fourteen Million Twenty Six Thousand One Hundred and Nineteen Dollars (\$14,026,119) And A Total Program Cost Not To Exceed Fifteen Million Nine Hundred and One Thousand One Hundred and Nineteen Dollars \$15,901,119.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Staff recommends that the Council approve of a resolution authorizing acceptance of a \$1,875,000 grant from the USDOJ/COPS Office to partially fund 15 additional sworn personnel over three years, from October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2025. The City of Oakland can accept these funds by matching the grant subsidy with an additional \$14,026,119 in funding. The \$1,875,000 along with the \$14,026,119 city cost will fully fund 15 additional police officers over the five years of the total grant cycle. Oakland Police Department (OPD) is requesting to split the City match requirement appropriation and immediately appropriate funds to cover year one and appropriate funds for years two, three, and four in the FY23-25 biennial budget. This report outlines how OPD would utilize the additional officers to expand the walking-beat patrol program to more areas of the City with high-population densities and high crime rates.

City Council
November 1, 2022

REASON FOR URGENCY

The need to take immediate action came to the attention of OPD after the 10-day agenda was posted. OPD received a letter for USDOJ/COPS 2022 grant on October 13, 2022. OPD must accept the award within 45 days within receipt of the award notification. The award funding and its appropriation needs to be approved by City Council before OPD can accept the award funding. The November 1, 2022, Council meeting is the only meeting that falls within that time frame. If OPD does not have Council's to accept and appropriate the funds, OPD would have to forfeit the funding. This item was scheduled to the November 1, 2022, Council meeting at the October 27, 2022 Rules Committee meeting.

BACKGROUND AND LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

The USDOJ/COPS grant funds are awarded through the COPS Hiring Program, a competitive grant program that provides funding directly to state, local and tribal law enforcement agencies to 1) create new officer positions (including filling existing officer vacancies that are no longer funded in an agency's budget); 2) rehire officers who have been laid off as a result of budget cuts unrelated to the receipt of grant funding; or 3) rehire officers who are scheduled to be laid off on a specific future date as a result of budget cuts unrelated to the receipt of grant funding. Funding decisions are based on the agency's commitment to community policing, crime rates, changes in law enforcement budgets, and other local fiscal data, such as poverty, unemployment, and foreclosure rates. This 2022 COPS Hiring Grant is the seventh of its kind awarded to the City of Oakland. Including this grant, the USDOJ has awarded Oakland enough funding to leverage the hiring of 136 police officers since 2009. The City Council has approved identical grants in the past (Resolution No. 85308 C.M.S. on December 9, 2014; Resolution No. 85930 C.M.S. on December 8, 2015; Resolution No. 86546 C.M.S. on December 13, 2016).

Table 1 below outlines the total history of the City's acceptance of U.S. DOJ COPS Hiring Grant awards.

Table 1: City of Oakland's U.S. DOJ COPS Hiring Grants

Grant Name	Grant Period	Award Amount	Officers Allocated
CHRP 2009 (COPS Hiring Recovery Program)	07/01/09 to 12/31/13	\$19,747,117	41
COPS 2011	09/01/11 to 02/29/16	\$10,739,575	25
COPS 2013	09/01/13 to 02/28/18	\$4,515,730	10
COPS 2014	09/01/14 to 08/31/17	\$1,875,000	15
COPS 2015	09/01/15 to 08/31/18	\$1,875,000	15
COPS 2016	09/01/16 to 08/31/19	\$1,875,000	15
COPS 2022	10/01/22 to 09/30/25	\$1,875,000	15

ANALYSIS AND POLICY ALTERNATIVES

The City of Oakland will be able to greatly increase the number of foot patrol officers by accepting this \$1,875,000 matching grant. In addition to accepting the grant, an appropriation of \$14,026,119 from the General Purpose Fund must be added to OPD's budget. This General Purpose Fund amount is required to cover the local cash match requirement and central services overhead cost (see **Table 2** below and Fiscal Impact Section).

Due to ongoing staffing constraints, OPD is challenged in placing officers in long-term assignments that would allow those officers to establish relationships in the neighborhoods that they serve. OPD faces an exceptionally high volume of calls for service (813,428 calls in 2022). All patrol officers face a high demand to respond to as many calls as possible; as officers must respond to calls for service, the agency as a whole is challenged in keeping officers in regular neighborhood assignments. OPD would use the 15 officers funded through this latest grant to deploy additional foot-patrol officers to all five areas, focusing on business corridors with high-crime and high population density. OPD would have a greater capacity to keep these officers on their walking patrol beats by increasing OPD's overall sworn staffing. The Two Sergeants required to supervise this unit will be transferred from other funded positions in OPD. Acceptance of this grant will require OPD to maintain 15 walking officers (and two associated supervising sergeants) for the duration of the grant and retention period regardless of other pressures and constraints on OPD staffing. This may result in vacancies in other OPD units in order to meet the requirements of the grant.

Table 2 Required City Matching Funds and Grant Funds over Three Years of Grant

Total City Match/General Purpose Fund Contribution	\$14,026,118	88%
Total COPS Grant Funding	\$1,875,000	12%
Total Cost	15,901,119	100.0%

Adoption of this resolution would authorize the City Administrator to accept and appropriate the COPS Hiring Program (COPS) grant funding. The matching grant will be used to hire new officers to help build OPD's crime-reducing capabilities and enhance community policing priorities. If the City chooses to accept the grant, OPD's authorized sworn staffing will grow from the current 726 sworn personnel to 741 sworn personnel.

The is grant fulfills the citywide goal of **responsive, trustworthy government**. Grant funds and other resources contributed by partnering agencies will enhance public safety which benefits all Oaklanders. Neighborhoods that have been subject to high rates of violent crime and may have developed mistrust of OPD will greatly benefit from this program, providing greater social equity.

The City of Oakland has seen great benefits from the sworn personnel hired under the USDOJ/COPS programs over the last several years. Enhanced community policing efforts, an increased emphasis on human trafficking operations, a focus on violent crime suppression, and traffic safety enforcement around Oakland schools have all resulted from accepting previous USDOJ/COPS grants and providing General Purpose Fund dollars as required by the grants.

As with previous USDOJ/COPS grants, the current effort is expected to increase the quality of life for Oakland residents and other stakeholders. Specifically, increased community satisfaction and decreased crime is expected in areas where new OPD foot patrols are implemented. Increased trust in OPD and Oakland City Government are expected.

FISCAL IMPACT

Approval of this resolution will authorize OPD to accept and appropriate grant funds in an amount not to exceed \$1,875,000 from the USDOJ/COPS Office, to fund the entry-level salary and fringe benefit costs of 15 sworn personnel for a 36-month period from October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2025. OPD will work directly with the USDOJ/COPS office to ensure the City can maximize the full amount of the grant award.

Based on the grant requirements, the City will be responsible for covering the cost of salaries and benefits greater than those associated with entry level officers as well as the recruitment, training, and operations and maintenance costs for such officers. The City’s estimated contribution associated with the acceptance of the grant is \$ 2,708,007 for the first grant year; \$ 3,303,048 for the second grant year; and \$3,549,563 for the third grant year that funding will be received from the COPS Hiring grant. The City is also responsible for \$ 4,465,501 for the fourth (retention) year.

Funds to provide the City match requirement in FY 2022-23 will be drawn from savings within the existing OPD Budget. This may require reductions to other OPD services to prevent the Department from exceeding its budget. The funding for Fiscal Years beyond FY 2022-23 will be built into OPD’s budget baseline and addressed in the FY23-25 biennial budget process. These estimated costs to the City are included in the tables below.

Table 3: Annual Funding Summary and City and Grant Allocation Summary

Category	Year 1 10/01/22- 9/30/23	Year2 10/01/23- 9/30/24	Year3 10/01/24- 9/30/25	Year4 10/01/25- 9/30/26	Grand Total
Salary & Benefits	2,753,585	3,320,882	3,563,548	3,800,697	13,438,712
CSO	203,122	245,327	263,321	280,930	992,700
O&M	351,300	361,839	372,694	383,874	1,469,707
Total Annual Cost	3,308,007	3,928,048	4,199,563	4,465,501	15,901,119

Grant Portion	600,000	625,000	650,000	-	1,875,000
City Match GPF Contribution	2,708,007	3,303,048	3,549,563	4,465,501	14,026,119

Table 4: Fiscal Impact for City of Oakland in Each Fiscal Year of the USDOJ COPS Grant

City Appropriation	City Match	Central Services Overhead	Grand Total
FY 2022-23	2,310,750	151,020	2,461,770
FY 2023-24 to FY 2026-27	12,597,669	841,680	13,439,349
Total	14,908,419	992,700	15,901,119

Table 5: Fiscal Impact for City of Oakland in Each Fiscal Year of the USDOJ COPS Grant

City Fiscal Year	FY 22-23	FY 23-24	FY 24-25	FY 25-26	FY 26-27*
Grant Period	10/01/22-6/30/23	7/01/23-06/30/24	07/01/24-06/30/25	07/01/25-06/30/26	07/01/26-09/30/26
Months within City Fiscal Year	9	12	12	12	3
City Share by Fiscal Year	2,099,595	3,152,957	3,488,952	4,237,654	1,046,960
Grant Amount	450,000	618,750	643,750	162,500	-
Total Cost by Fiscal Year	2,549,595	3,771,707	4,132,702	4,400,154	1,046,960

* Mandatory retention period beyond expiration of grant

Funding will be appropriated in the relevant Grant fund to be determined, District Command Administration Org (108010) and Patrol Area Orgs, in a Grant Project to be determined.

Table 6: Funding Sources

Fund Source	Organization	Account	Project	Program	Amount
2113	108010	TBD	TBD	PS11	\$1,875,000
1010	108010	TBD	TBD	PS11	12,257,482
Total Expenditure					14,132,482

Table 7: Total City Match Contribution and Total Grant Portion (by percentage)

Total City Match/General Purpose Fund Contribution	\$14,026,118	88%
Total COPS Grant Funding	\$1,875,000	12%
Total Cost	15,901,119	100.0%

PUBLIC OUTREACH / INTEREST

Chief Armstrong held a public press conference in which he announced OPD would be applying for 2022 USDOJ/COPS grant. He acknowledged OPD had applied for and been denied this grant in recent years. Receipt of the 2022 grant funds along with City matching funds will be used to expand foot patrol where OPD sworn officers constantly interact with the public to build strong community-police relationships. Stronger community-police relationships enhance the long-term public safety of high-crime and high-population density neighborhoods. Expanding this program is of great interest to all Oaklanders as public safety impacts all Oaklanders.

COORDINATION

This report and legislation have been reviewed by the Office of the City Attorney and the Controller’s Bureau.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: Hiring additional law enforcement officers will generate additional jobs for the local economy. Additional community policing officers will enhance crime prevention and support economic growth. Increased economic activity will raise business tax and sales tax revenues to the City.

Environmental: There are no environmental issues associated with this report.

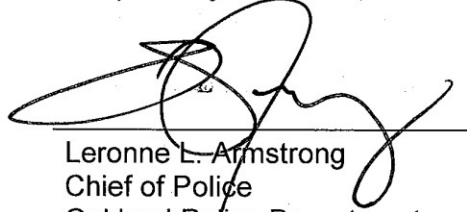
Race & Equity: Grant funds and other resources contributed by partnering agencies will enhance public safety which benefits all Oaklanders. Neighborhoods that have been subject to high rates of violent crime will benefit from the increase in foot patrol.

ACTION REQUESTED OF CITY COUNCIL

Staff Recommends That The City Council Approve A Resolution Authorizing The City Administrator To: (1) Accept And Appropriate Grant Funds In An Amount Not To Exceed One Million Eight Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$1,875,000) From The U.S. Department Of Justice, Office Of Community Oriented Policing Services (USDOJ/COPS) To Fund The Entry-Level Salary And Fringe Benefits Costs Of Fifteen (15) Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Police Officers And Appropriate The Funds To The Oakland Police Department (OPD); (2) Authorize An Appropriation Of Thirteen Million Thirty Three Thousand Four Hundred and Nineteen Dollars (\$13,033,419) To Cover The Local Match Requirement; And (3) Authorize The General Purpose Fund To Subsidize The Central Services Overhead Costs Of Nine Hundred Ninety-Two Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$992,700) For A Total City Of Oakland Contribution Of Fourteen Million Twenty Six Thousand One Hundred and Nineteen Dollars (\$14,026,119) And A Total Program Cost Not To Exceed Fifteen Million Nine Hundred and One Thousand One Hundred and Nineteen Dollars \$15,901,119.

For questions regarding this report, please contact Amber Fuller, Grants Coordinator, at (510) 238-3733.

Respectfully submitted,



Leronne L. Armstrong
Chief of Police
Oakland Police Department

Reviewed by:
Kiona Suttle, Deputy Director
OPD, Bureau of Services

Tracey Jones, Police Services Manager
OPD, Research and Planning Unit

Prepared by:
LaRaija Marshall, Fiscal Manager
OPD, Fiscal Division

Amber Fuller, Grants Coordinator
OPD, Fiscal Division