



AGENDA REPORT

TO: Edward D. Reiskin
City Administrator

FROM: LeRonne L. Armstrong
Chief of Police

SUBJECT: Citizens Options for Public Safety
(COPS) Grant Fiscal Year 2021

DATE: November 15, 2021

City Administrator Approval 

Date: Dec 9, 2021

RECOMMENDATION

Staff Recommends That The City Council Adopt A Resolution Authorizing The City Administrator To Accept and Appropriate The Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 State Of California "Citizens Options For Public Safety " (State COPS Grant XXIV) Allocation In The Amount Of Six Hundred Sixty-Four Thousand One Hundred Ninety Dollars (\$664,190) Plus Accrued Interest Earnings, Of Up To Ten Thousand Dollars For A Total Amount Not To Exceed Six Hundred Seventy-Four Thousand One Hundred Ninety Dollars (\$674,190) To Fund Helicopter Maintenance, Computer And Technology Upgrades, And Criminal Investigation Interview Room Upgrades.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Oakland Police Department (OPD) has been awarded \$664,190 plus approximately \$10,000 in accrued interest by the State of California Legislature for the FY 2021 Citizens' Option for Public Safety (State COPS Grant XXIV). State COPS Grant funds are distributed to each county for distribution to cities to support front-line law enforcement, based on a population size distribution formula. OPD is seeking approval to use its front-line law enforcement grant allocation to fund:

- Helicopter Maintenance;
- Computer and Technology Upgrades; and
- Criminal Investigation Division Interview Room Upgrades

BACKGROUND / LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

For the 23rd consecutive year, the State Legislature has authorized supplemental funding of front-line law enforcement through the State COPS and Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) Grant program. In 2021, 50 percent of the grant funds were allocated to counties to spend on juvenile justice work, 39.7 percent of grant funds were allocated separately for front-line law enforcement, and 10.3 percent of funds were allocated to county sheriffs and district attorneys (see **Attachment A**: Award Letter Grant Allocation List).

City Council
December 21, 2021

As in past years, the entire 2021 grant amount and accrued interest is restricted by statute for front-line law enforcement expenses (e.g., personnel and equipment, training, vehicles, and equipment). These types of expense are needed regularly by police departments. OPD has used past State COPS grant funds for a variety of allowed uses, such as:

- Vehicle purchases and upgrades;
- Anti-human trafficking operations (personnel);
- Ceasefire¹ operations (personnel);
- Equipment and equipment maintenance;
- Software and technology upgrades; and
- Other personnel and training needs.

The grant program is a supplemental funding source for local governments. Although the funds can be spent on frontline policing it must be directly related to current, everyday contact with public and enforcing law. There is no guarantee that this will be a continued funding source in future fiscal years. Per the COPS legislation, Assembly Bill (AB) 1913, funds are received by the Alameda County Treasury and distributed to local jurisdictions through the Law Enforcement Services Account within the Local Revenue Fund 2011.

In the past five years, the City Council has approved several resolutions to accept and appropriate State COPS Grants: Grant XXIII via Resolution No. 88402 C.M.S., Grant XXII 87938 C.M.S., Grant XXI via Resolution No. 87819 C.M.S., Grant XX via Resolution No. 87138 C.M.S., and Grant XIX via Resolution No. 86530 C.M.S.

ANALYSIS AND POLICY ALTERNATIVES

OPD is seeking City Council approval to accept and appropriate State COPS XXIV funds per the spending plan below.

Helicopter Repairs/Maintenance: \$225,000

OPD has two patrol helicopters and one training helicopter. The two patrol helicopters are MD500E model helicopters of which one was built in 1990 (30 years old) and the other was built in 1993 (27 years old). The training helicopter is a Schweizer 300 CBI built in 2005. These helicopters are used regularly and require more expensive parts and mechanical support to maintain safe operational functionality, especially as the helicopters continue to age.

Funds will be used to fund ongoing helicopter maintenance for OPD's '93 MD500E which is over 25 years old and requires frequent maintenance and repairs exceeding the current allocation from the General-Purpose Fund. The City Council adopted Resolution No. [88173 CMS](#) on June 23, 2020, which authorized a contract with Rotorcraft Services, Inc. for up to \$750,000 per year for July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2024. The report and supplemental reports accompanying the resolution explained maintenance costs have escalated due to the age and increased use. The third supplemental report dated June 18, 2020 explained that a new helicopter will cost approximately \$5 million and take two years to order and build to law enforcement

¹ <https://www.oaklandca.gov/topics/oaklands-ceasefire-strategy>

specifications. Finance leasing will cost \$1.1 million per year for five years or \$600,000 per year for ten years.

Computer/Technology Upgrades: \$249,190

Funds will be used for various needed technology upgrades, including the purchase of new computers, software, licenses, Wi-Fi access, and other needed hardware for OPD staff. Many computers in the Police Administration Building are outdated, coming to the end of their useful life; these computers must be replaced to ensure personnel can continue to access modern software and productivity tools.

Refurbishing Criminal Investigation Division (CID) Interview Rooms: \$190,000

Funds will be used to refurbish two Criminal Investigations Division (CID) Interview Rooms with video capability which will increase their operational efficiency and suitability for crime victims, witnesses, and suspects. The rooms will be outfitted with:

- New cameras and internet protocol streaming technology;
- Soundproofing;
- Telephones;
- Video retention system for personnel;
- Improved lighting; and
- New furniture.

The interview rooms rely on outdated data systems that require manual archival systems. The current data backup procedures cause delays, require personnel time, and cause delays when the interview rooms are needed. Additionally, the outdated system slows video search functions. Newer cloud-based video archival systems will allow for streamlined archiving and more functional search capabilities. New cameras, soundproofing, lighting and furniture are also needed given the age of the current facilities.

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the proposed resolution to allow the City Administrator to accept and appropriate the State COPS grant funds for the proposed purchases. Having upgraded equipment and technology allows OPD to respond more efficiently and supports a strong infrastructure. The efforts to make these upgrades supports the City's goal of achieving **Responsive, trustworthy government**.

FISCAL IMPACT

OPD seeks to use its \$664,190 State COPS XXIV allocation to fund helicopter maintenance, invest in new technology and equipment, and refurbish CID interview rooms. There is no match requirement for this grant. The appropriation is solely an addition to City funds and cannot be used to supplant City funding from any other fund.

	Item	Amount
	Helicopter Repairs/Maintenance	\$225,000
	Computer/Technology Upgrades	\$249,190
	Refurbished Criminal Investigation Division Interview Rooms Upgrade	\$190,000
	Total	\$664,190

Funding will be allocated in the State of California Grant Fund (2158); Fiscal Services Division Org (106510); State COPS XXIV Project (1006207); and Agency-wide Administration Program (PS01).

Fund Source	Organization	Project	Program	Amount
2158	107710	1006207	PS13	\$225,000
2158	106410	1006207	PS01	\$249,190
2158	102310	1006207	PS03	\$190,000

PUBLIC OUTREACH / INTEREST

There was no public outreach for the preparation of this report beyond the standard noticing procedures. There is public interest as funds will be used to enhance public and officer safety.

COORDINATION

This report and resolution were reviewed by the Office of the City Attorney and the Budget Bureau.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: Whenever possible, equipment used for this project will be purchased locally.

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

Race and Social Equity: The services provided through this initiative will assist the community through improved policing services, which benefit all Oakland residents and visitors. The

proposed grant purchases will be used to support crime investigations that primarily occur in disadvantaged communities of Oakland that suffer from greater levels of violent criminal activity.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff Recommends That The City Council Adopt A Resolution Authorizing The City Administrator To Accept and Appropriate The Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 State Of California "Citizens Options For Public Safety " (State COPS Grant XXIV) Allocation In The Amount Of Six Hundred Sixty-Four Thousand One Hundred Ninety Dollars (\$664,190) Plus Accrued Interest Earnings, Of Up To Ten Thousand Dollars For A Total Amount Not To Exceed Six Hundred Seventy-Four Thousand One Hundred Ninety Dollars (\$674,190) To Fund Helicopter Maintenance, Computer And Technology Upgrades, And Criminal Investigation Interview Room Upgrades.

For questions regarding this report, please contact Shamika Shaves, OPD, Fiscal Services Manager at (510) 238-4767.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment A: State COPS Grant XXIV Award Letter

