

CITY OF OAKLAND

AGENDA REPORT

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OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

2005 SEP 29 PM 2:31

To: Office of the City Administrator
Attn: Deborah Edgerly
From: Police Department
Date: October 11, 2005

Re: A Report and Proposed Resolution Authorizing the City Administrator to Accept and Appropriate Eighty-Three Thousand Nine Hundred and Four Dollars (\$83,904) in Grant Funds from the U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice (USDOJ/NIJ) to the Police Department for the 2005 DNA Capacity Enhancement Grant Program

SUMMARY

This report and resolution authorizes the City Administrator, on behalf of the City of Oakland, to accept and appropriate a grant in the amount of \$83,904 from the U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice (USDOJ/NIJ) for the 2005 DNA Capacity Enhancement Program. The proposed program period is October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006. The funds will be used to offset costs to the Police Department's Criminalistics Division Forensic Biology Unit relative to increased capabilities in analyzing biological evidence associated with criminal cases.

FISCAL IMPACT

It is anticipated that the Department will receive federal grant funds in the amount of \$83,904 to improve the infrastructure and analysis capabilities of state and local crime laboratories that conduct DNA analysis. Revenues and appropriations will be allocated in the Federal Grant Fund: 2112, Criminalistics Division Org.: 102610; Criminalistics Program: PS05, in a Project Account to be determined. The Criminalistics Laboratory DNA Technical Lead will be responsible for program administration. All equipment purchases will be covered under the manufacturer's warranty for the first year. The program liquidation period is 90 days following the program end date. There are no matching fund requirements. Expense allocations are:

Description and Use of Funds	Amount
ABI 7500 RT-PCR	59,075
Laboratory Benches	17,209
Travel and Training	7,620
Total	\$83,904

Maintenance provision costs for the ABI 7500 RT-PCR beyond the first year, with an annual estimated cost of \$2,000, will be expensed to: General Fund: 1010; Criminalistics Division Org.: 102610; Criminalistics Program: PS05; Maintenance Account: 54612.

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BACKGROUND

The 2005 DNA Capacity Enhancement Program was created to assist laboratories in improving the infrastructure and analysis capacity of their laboratories to process DNA. The improvements allow staff to process DNA samples in a more efficient and cost-effective manner. Grant funds will support the purchase of sensitive DNA quantitation instrumentation, laboratory benches, and provided specialized training to the Forensic Biology Unit staff.

The Laboratory's case completion time during the first six months of 2005 was 150 days. Upon implementation of new DNA quantitation instrumentation, coupled with automated DNA extraction instrumentation, the Forensic Biology Unit should be able to decrease the case turn-around time to less than 100 days. This decrease will enable staff to increase the number of case requests completed each year.

The DNA profiles obtained from probative evidence will be entered into the Combined Offender DNA Indexing System (CODIS). A DNA match made by CODIS can then be matched to a named individual or to another unknown suspect case. Based upon past experience with DNA profiles obtained from suspectless cases, staff anticipates a 25% Hit-Rate.¹

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

The advent of DNA technology has revolutionized law enforcement's ability to analyze biological evidence at a genetic level, in particular, semen evidence encountered in sexual assaults. Coinciding with this revolution in genetic analysis is the utilization of computer-based DNA databases. The DNA analysis of the biological evidence associated with unsolved sexual assault and homicide cases and subsequent searches of these DNA profiles against the Combined Offender DNA Indexing System and against other case profiles can determine if any matches exist. The outcome of such cross-referenced searches can lead to the arrest and prosecution of violent individuals. Additionally, DNA typing may lead to the elimination of a particular individual as a crime suspect. The ability of the laboratory to conduct the DNA analyses as a routine matter, with a shorter turn-around time, will ultimately lead to solving crimes.

¹ "Hit Rate" is defined as that portion of all cases examined in which at least one suspect is identified. Multiple suspects may be identified in some portion of the cases examined. In "named" cases, investigators frequently request multiple suspects be examined.

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Objective #1: Use of the ABI 7500 RT-PCR Instrumentation

The ABI 7500 will decrease the turn-around time for the completion of homicide and sexual assault case requests in which biological material is subjected to DNA typing, thereby increasing the number of cases completed. Assisting in this time reduction will be the implementation of automated DNA extraction.

Staff anticipates a time reduction of two to three hours of each analyst's hands-on time per case. This will reduce the current turn-around time of case requests from 133 days to less than 100 days. Laboratory benches will be purchased in order to accommodate evidence examination.

Objective #2: Continuing Education

Grant funds will ensure that staff meets continuing education requirements of the DNA Advisory Board, the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board, and the American Board of Criminalistics

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic

Whenever possible, supplies and equipment used for the project will be purchased locally.

Environmental

There are no environmental issues associated with this report.

Social Equity

The personnel training and equipment funded by this grant will enhance the Department's ability to analyze biological evidence in homicide and sexual assault cases in a more timely fashion.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

There are no ADA or senior citizen access issues contained in this report.

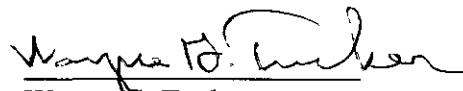
RECOMMENDATION

The Police Department recommends that the City Council authorize the City Administrator to accept grant funds of up to \$83,904 from the U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice, and appropriate said funds to the Police Department Criminalistics Division.

ACTION REQUESTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the resolution.

Respectfully submitted,


Wayne G. Tucker
Chief of Police

Prepared by: Jennifer Mihalovich
Criminalistics Division
Bureau of Investigation
and Candice Jessie
Fiscal Services Division
Bureau of Administration

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO
THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:


Office of the City Administrator

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Rock Chirco
City Attorney

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CITY OF OAKLAND

RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.

2005 SEP 29 PM 2:31

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE EIGHTY-THREE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND FOUR DOLLARS (\$83,904) IN GRANT FUNDS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE (USDOJ/NIJ) TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR THE 2005 DNA CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT GRANT

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice, 2005 DNA Capacity Enhancement grant program has advised that the City of Oakland has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$83,904 for use in supporting the Police Department's Criminalistics Division; and

WHEREAS, the DNA Capacity Enhancement Program was created to improve the infrastructure and analysis capabilities of laboratories that conduct DNA analysis; and

WHEREAS, the grant term for the proposed initiative is October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby authorizes the City Administrator or her designee to accept grant funds in the amount of \$83,904 from the U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice and to increase revenues and appropriate said budget to the Police Department; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That said grant funds shall be maintained in the Federal Grant Fund: 2112; Criminalistics Division Org.: 102610; Criminalistics Program PS05; in a Project Number to be established; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That equipment maintenance costs beyond the first year of acquisition (with an annual estimated cost of \$2,000) will be expensed to the General Fund: 1010; Criminalistics Division Org.: 102610; Criminalistics Program: PS05; Maintenance Account: 54612; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Administrator or her designee is hereby authorized to complete all required negotiations, certifications, assurances and documentation required to accept, modify, extend and/or amend the grant award.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 20____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES- BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID, and PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

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PUBLIC SAFETY CMTE.
OCT 11 2005

ATTEST: _____

LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the
Council of the City of Oakland, California