



Agenda Item No.: 61.

DEPARTMENT: CITY MANAGER
DIRECTOR: ELIZABETH N. FRETWELL

☐ Consent ☒ Discussion

SUBJECT:
ADMINISTRATIVE:

Discussion and possible action of the allocation of funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Stimulus (ARRA) Department of Justice/Bureau of Justice Assistance Byrne Justice Assistance Grant - Grants

Fiscal Impact

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No Impact

☐ Augmentation Required

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Budget Funds Available

Amount:

Funding Source:

Dept./Division: City Manager's Office

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:

The City of Las Vegas is acting as fiscal agent for a formulaic four-year stimulus grant for a total of \$7,558,206 to fund justice related programs. No matching funds are required. Monies allocated by the Department of Justice will fund projects for the City of Las Vegas, City of North Las Vegas, City of Henderson, City of Mesquite and Clark County.

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend approval

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

PowerPoint Presentation by Staff

Motion made by OSCAR B. GOODMAN to Approve the allocation of funding and include the District Attorney position be dedicated to child pandering with reports every six months to the City Manager's office

Passed For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 3

RICKI Y. BARLOW, STEVE WOLFSON, OSCAR B. GOODMAN, GARY REESE; (Against-None); (Abstain-None); (Did Not Vote-None); (Excused-LOIS TARKANIAN, STEVEN D. ROSS, DAVID W. STEINMAN)

Minutes:

Using a PowerPoint Presentation which was submitted for the record, BECKY SPRAY, Office of Administrative Services, gave a brief report. This grant is an opportunity for the City to utilized federal stimulus funds. In order to access the funds, the City is required to apply as part of block of jurisdictions which include City of North Las Vegas, City of Henderson, City of

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Mesquite and Clark County. A Memorandum of Understanding between all jurisdictions has already been approved and the City of Las Vegas will act as the fiscal agent.

MS. SPRAY briefly explained the funding breakdown, noting that the recommended funding formula had changed. Regional meetings had been held to discuss funding allocations to each jurisdiction and each jurisdiction had at least two priority projects funded. In general, grant funds will be used for programs, software, courtroom equipment and 40 contract full-time and part-time positions.

MS. SPRAY requested Council direction on the request from Clark County that funds also be used for a District Attorney (DA) position within Clark County. This DA position will be dedicated to vice crimes and funding this position will require the elimination of a Victim Witness Advocate position within the City Attorneys Office.

CITY ATTORNEY BRAD JERRIC expressed his support of the request. The DAs focus would be on vice crimes involving children, but he or she could prosecute vice crimes that involved women if time permitted. MAYOR GOODMAN stated he would support Clark Countys request with the understanding that the DA position would be dedicated to vice crimes involving children.

LIEUTENANT KAREN HUGHES, Vice Section assured the Council that this DA would be assigned to the Special Victims Unit. She explained that child pandering cases are very complicated and require a DA who is very knowledgeable of the sub-culture. She stated that the DA would be very busy, despite the narrow focus on the exploitation of children.

CITY MANAGER ELIZABETH BETWELL suggested that the District Attorneys Office submit reports to her office so the Council can monitor the prosecution and progress of those specific cases.