

**REPORT FROM**

**OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

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Date: October 19, 2023

CAO File No. 0130-02118-0001  
Council File No. 22-0282  
Council District: All

To: The Mayor and Council

From: Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer



Reference: Transmittal from the Board of Police Commissioners dated September 22, 2023

Subject: **2021 CONNECT AND PROTECT- LAW ENFORCEMENT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH RESPONSES PROGRAM GRANT – BUDGET MODIFICATIONS**

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**RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor:

1. Approve and authorize the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to transfer funds within the 2021 Connect and Protect - Law Enforcement Behavioral Program Health Responses (Connect and Protect) Program grant, awarded by the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs as follows:

*Federal Share*

<b>Category</b>	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Revised Budget</b>
Sworn Overtime	\$ 170,000.00	\$ 101,045.50	\$ 271,045.50
Civilian Overtime	0.00	18,999.00	18,999.00
Travel	70,556.00	(19,833.00)	50,723.00
Equipment	10,000.00	(10,000.00)	0.00
Supplies	23,664.00	20,630.50	44,294.50
Sub-awards	150,000.00	0.00	150,000.00
Procurement	60,000.00	(60,000.00)	0.00
Other	65,780.00	(50,842.00)	14,938.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 550,000.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 550,000.00</b>

*Match Requirement*

<b>Category</b>	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Revised Budget</b>
Salaries	\$ 111,304.20	\$ (9,618.52)	\$ 101,685.68
Fringe Benefits	84,379.65	18,154.52	102,534.17
Other	0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 195,683.85</b>	<b>\$ 11,536.00</b>	<b>\$ 207,219.85</b>

2. Authorize the Controller to transfer appropriations as follows:

**TRANSFER FROM:**

<u>Fund/Dept. No.</u>	<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
339/70	70W574	2021 Connect and Protect	\$120,044.50

**TRANSFER TO:**

<u>Fund/Dept. No.</u>	<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
100/70	001090	Overtime General	\$18,999.00
	001092	Overtime Sworn	\$101,045.50

3. Authorize the LAPD to prepare Controller instructions for any technical adjustments as necessary to implement Mayor and Council intentions, subject to the approval of the City Administrative Officer, and authorize the Controller to implement the instructions.

**SUMMARY**

The LAPD is seeking approval to reprogram the 2021 Connect and Protect Program grant funds from the United States Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs. The grantor has approved the budget modifications, which included changes to the Federal share of expenditures and grant award match requirements. The grant requires 20-percent matching funds for the first and second years and a 40-percent match for the third year. The LAPD will be using salaries and fringe benefits for the match requirement, including a donation of \$3,000 from the Los Angeles Police Foundation for supplies, clothing, blankets, and other items needed under this program.

The 2021 Connect and Protect Program provides funding to support law enforcement-behavioral health cross-system collaboration and to improve public safety responses and outcomes for individuals with mental illness (MI) or co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse (CMISA) who come into contact with the criminal justice system. The increase in overtime will allow the LAPD to conduct additional outreach and engagement with individuals with MI or CMISA.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Connect and Protect Program offers grants to help entities prepare, design, or enhance a law enforcement-cooperative response that targets qualified individuals convicted of crimes and promotes public safety and public health. The LAPD's Mental Evaluation Unit (MEU), is a nationally recognized program that involves both law enforcement and mental health response to high-frequency calls of individuals with mental illnesses and substance abuse problems who come in contact with police officers multiple times. The LAPD, in partnership with the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (County), works collaboratively to assess and treat qualified individuals in support programs.

The LAPD applied for the 2021 Connect and Protect Program grant by the July 2021 deadline and was awarded grant funding in the amount of \$550,000. The grant award has a three-year performance period that started on October 1, 2021, and will expire on September 30, 2024. The Connect and Protect Program will require the LAPD to promote effective strategies for individuals with mental illnesses for the following purposes: 1. Reduce the risk of harm and public safety; 2. Treat women accused of crimes with mental health; 3. Propose interventions to reduce recidivism; and, 4. Use assessment tools to target moderate or high-risk recidivism in need of treatment.

Under the terms of the grant award, the LAPD shall use funds to increase efforts by public safety officials and mental health agencies to connect individuals with MI or CMISA with treatment and social service programs; and improve public safety through specialized training for officer and mental health agencies; increase cooperation between state and local governments to support individuals with mental illnesses; and in part, that funds are used for transition and reentry services to treat incarcerated populations.

On August 26, 2022, the City Council adopted the Public Safety Committee's report relative to the 2021 Connect and Protect Program grant application (C.F. 22-0282).

At its meeting on September 19, 2023, the Board of Police Commissioners approved the proposed budget modifications to the 2021 Connect and Protect Program grant, which includes the following:

- Adding \$101,045.50 to sworn overtime which will allow Mental Evaluation Unit (MEU) personnel to conduct additional outreach in the field and collaboration work with JSS, the Department of Mental Health, and other community partners. The salary match will decrease by \$9,618.52 due to other match items requested to be approved;
- Adding a new budget line item for civilian overtime in the amount of \$18,999 to assist in administrative tasks such as preparing requisition documents, maintenance of grant program files, timekeeping, etc.;
- Increasing Supplies by \$20,630.50 to allow the purchase of office items needed to equip the work areas for collaboration; and,
- Increasing Fringe Benefits by \$18,154.52 to pay for the fringe benefits of civilian and sworn employees working on grant-funded overtime.

The additional funds for Personnel, Fringe Benefits, and Supplies will be transferred from the following budget categories:

- \$19,833 from Travel. Because of the delayed start of the program, MEU staff will not be presenting at the originally scheduled policing conference regarding this grant. Also, the number of staff traveling in the first year was reduced from three to two;
- \$9,999.99 from Equipment. There is no longer a need to purchase the social analysis software. The MEU already has a network in place to link and implement the services;
- \$60,000 from Procurement Contracts. The software development contractor is no longer needed. The database system needed for the program has already been developed internally by LAPD programmers. Also, the LAPD will no longer procure vendors to conduct training for staff. Instead, MEU staff will attend training courses that will be funded by other sources; and,
- \$50,842 from Other Costs. There is no longer a need to develop a co-located area and purchase office furniture and workstations. The existing MEU work area will be used by the Task Force and will just expand and upgrade some of the office equipment.

The LAPD is requesting the following line items to be approved as a match:

1. Fringe benefits for overtime (\$25,446.26). Instead of charging the fringe benefits to the grant, the City will cover these to comply with match requirements; and,
2. A donation of \$3,000 from the Los Angeles Police Foundation for supplies, clothing, blankets, and other items to be used while engaging with individuals needing mental health services.

## **FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Approval of the recommendations stated in this report will authorize the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to transfer funds within the 2021 Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Program Health Responses Program grant award of up to \$101,045.50, to Overtime Sworn and \$18,999 to Overtime General. Approval of the budget modifications will increase both Sworn and Civilian overtime which will allow the LAPD to conduct additional outreach and engagement with individuals with MI or CMISA. The LAPD will identify savings to cover additional costs. There is no additional impact to the General Fund. The grant reimbursements for related costs will be deposited into Revenue Source Code 5349, Police Grants Related Costs.

## **FINANCIAL POLICIES STATEMENT**

The recommendations stated in this report comply with the City's Financial Policies in that, to the extent possible, current operations will be funded by current revenues.