

**REPORT FROM**

**OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

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Date: November 27, 2023

CAO File No. 0220-03790-0066

Council File No. 23-1235

Council District: --

To: The Mayor and Council

From: Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer



Reference: Board of Police Commissioners Transmittal dated October 25, 2023

Subject: **2023 DNA CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT AND BACKLOG REDUCTION PROGRAM GRANT**

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**RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

1. Authorize the Chief of Police, or his designee to:
  - a. Retroactively apply for and accept the grant award for the 2023 Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program grant in the amount of \$1,764,997 for the period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2025, from the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance;
  - b. Negotiate and execute the grant award agreement, subject to City Attorney approval as to form;
2. Authorize the Los Angeles Police Department to:
  - a. Spend up to the total grant amount of \$1,764,997 in accordance with the grant award agreement;
  - b. Submit grant reimbursement requests to the grantor and deposit grant receipts in the Police Department Grant Fund No. 339, Department No. 70;
  - c. 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;
3. Authorize the Controller to establish a grant receivable and appropriate \$1,764,997 to an appropriations account, account number to be determined, within Fund No. 339, Department No. 70, for the receipt and disbursement of the 2023 DNA CEBR Program grant funds; and,

4. Instruct the City Clerk to:

- a. Place on the City Council agenda on July 1, 2024, or on the first meeting day thereafter, the actions relative to the 2023 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program grant, as follows:
  1. Authorize the Controller to transfer \$500,000 from Fund No. 339, Department No. 70, account name and account number to be determined, to Fund No. 100, Department No. 70, Account number 001090, Overtime General;
  2. Authorize the Controller to transfer \$25,100 from Fund No. 339, Department No. 70, account name and account number to be determined, to Fund No. 339, Department No. 70, account number to be determined, account name Related Costs;
- b. Place on the City Council agenda on July 1, 2025, or on the first meeting day thereafter, the actions relative to the 2023 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program grant, as follows:
  1. Authorize the Controller to transfer \$52,075 from Fund No. 339, Department No. 70, account name and account number to be determined, to Fund No. 100, Department No. 70, Account number 001090, Overtime General;
  2. Authorize the Controller to transfer \$2,615 from Fund No. 339, Department No. 70, account name and account number to be determined, to Fund No. 339, Department No. 70, account number to be determined, account name Related Costs.

## SUMMARY

The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) is seeking retroactive approval to apply for and accept a \$1,764,997 grant award for the 2023 Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program from the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance. The grant award has a performance period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2025. No matching funds are required.

The 2023 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program provides funding to state and local units of government with existing crime laboratories that conduct DNA analysis to process, record, screen, and analyze forensic DNA and DNA database samples. Funding will be utilized to increase the efficiency and capacity of public forensic DNA and DNA database laboratories to process more DNA samples, thereby helping to reduce the number of forensic DNA and DNA database samples awaiting analysis.

Funding from this grant will allow the LAPD's Forensic Science Division, Serology/DNA Unit (SDU) to increase the capacity of the analysis of evidence and reduce case backlog due to the increase in personnel hours for forensic DNA sample analysis. The grant will also enable the SDU to process more Combined DNA Index System (CODIS)-eligible samples in less time, allowing staff sufficient

time to train personnel and validate new technologies. In addition, grant funding will provide training to staff in order to meet the required continuing education requirements of accreditation.

### **DNA CEBR Grant Award Program Expenses**

A breakdown of the expense categories supported by the 2023 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program grant award is provided in the chart below:

<b>Expense Category</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Personnel (Overtime)	\$ 552,075
Fringe Benefits	27,715
Travel	82,493
Equipment	350,000
Supplies	380,814
Other Costs	371,900
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,764,997</b>

The grant budget provides funding for civilian Criminalists and support staff to process DNA cases on an overtime basis; fringe benefits on overtime; travel expenses for training and continuing education of the DNA analysts; purchase of an automatic liquid handling instrument; and purchase of DNA reagent supplies. Other costs include the purchase of a sample management software and registration fees for training, events, and conferences.

### **FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Approval of the recommendations within this report will have no additional impact to the General Fund and will allow for the expenditure of the 2023 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program grant award totaling \$1,764,997 from the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance. No matching funds are required for this grant.

### **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.