

REPORT FROM

OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Date: June 6, 2023

CAO File No. 0130-02111-0001

Council File No. 22-1484

Council District: --

To: The Mayor and Council



From: Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer

Reference: Transmittal from the Board of Police Commissioners dated November 14, 2022

Subject: **FISCAL YEAR 2022 LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY DE-ESCALATION -
COMMUNITY POLICING DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM - GRANT
APPLICATION AND AWARD**

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. Authorize the Chief of Police, or designee, to:

- a. Retroactively apply for and accept the grant award of \$250,000 for the Fiscal Year 2022 Community Policing Development (FY22 CPD) Law Enforcement Agency De-escalation (De-escalation) Program, from the United States Department of Justice, Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), for the period from September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2024;
- b. Negotiate and execute the grant award, subject to the review and approval of the City Attorney as to form;
- c. Negotiate and execute a contract with a vendor to create and integrate custom virtual reality scenarios and avatars, not to exceed \$52,000 for the performance period from September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2024, subject to the review and approval of the City Attorney as to form;

2. Authorize the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to:

- a. Spend up to \$250,000 in funding in accordance with the grant award agreement; and,
- b. Submit grant reimbursement requests to the grantor and deposit grant receipts into Fund No. 339, Department No. 70;

3. Authorize the Controller to:

- a. Establish a grant receivable and appropriate \$250,000 to an appropriation account to be determined, within Fund No. 339, Department No. 70, for the receipt and disbursement of the COPS FY22 CPD De-escalation grant funds;
 - b. Increase appropriations for the COPS FY22 CPD De-escalation Grant Program from an appropriation account to be determined, Fund No. 339, Department No. 70, to Fund No. 100, Department No. 70, Account No. 001092, Overtime Sworn; Amount: \$180,636;
 - c. Transfer appropriations from Fund No. 100, Department No. 70, Account No. 001092, Overtime Sworn, to Fund No. 339, Department No. 70, account numbers to be determined, for fringe benefits and related costs, upon submission of proper documentation by the LAPD, subject to the approval of the City Administrative Officer, of the related costs incurred during the grant performance period;
4. Authorize the LAPD to prepare Controller's instructions for any technical adjustments, subject to the approval of the City Administrative Officer, and authorize the Controller to implement the instructions.

SUMMARY

The Los Angeles Police Department (Department) through its Board of Police Commissioners, requests authority to retroactively apply for and subsequently accept a grant award in the amount of \$250,000 from the United States Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, for the Fiscal Year 2022 Law Enforcement Agency De-escalation Grant (De-escalation) - Community Policing Development (CPD) Program. The term of the grant award is from September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2024.

The Department intends to utilize the grant award to improve its training program on de-escalation and critical thinking, by developing and integrating customized virtual reality scenarios and avatars in the training courses. The grant funds will support the planning, creation, and implementation of the course, providing officers with tools, techniques, and exercises to fine tune their skills in interacting with individuals with mental illness and dangerous suspects. The training upgrade involves integrating the Virtual Reality (VR) Technology module that is capable of creating new environments, motion captures and avatars of various demographics that makes the training interactive, diverse and more realistic to the participants due to its immersive virtual approach. The VR course will present officers with challenging situations, exercising the need to employ de-escalation techniques to resolve encounters with minimum amount of force, if any. Integrating VR will contribute to LAPD's broader training efforts in de-escalation, implicit bias, and duty to intervene, under any circumstances, since it presents numerous iterations of incidents with

different times of day, locations and variety of subject interactions. The LAPD will highlight this important new training via local media and through its Community Safety Partnership Bureau to facilitate participation of community members.

The Department will allocate the grant funding to contract the services of a virtual reality technology vendor to develop and integrate customized virtual reality scenarios and avatars in its training courses (\$52,000); sworn overtime for officers who will instruct the Virtual Reality Enhanced De-escalation and Tactical Decision-making courses (\$180,636); travel for police officers participating in the training (\$9,040); and training supplies (\$8,324).

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Approval of the recommendations within this report will have no additional impact to the General Fund and will provide for the expenditure of the COPS FY22 CPD De-escalation Program grant award in the amount of \$250,000, for the grant performance period from September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2024. No matching funds are required for this grant.

FINANCIAL POLICIES STATEMENT

The recommendations provided in this report are in compliance with the City's Financial Policies in that all grant funds will be utilized for grant-eligible activities.

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