

PUBLIC SAFETY and PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE'S REPORT
relative to the 2019-20 Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Program Grant.

Recommendations for Council action, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. RESOLVE that the following two positions are APPROVED and CONFIRMED through June 30, 2020:

- a. Detective II (Class Code 2223-2)
- b. Detective III (Class Code 2223-3)

2. AUTHORIZE the Chief, Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), or designee, to:

- a. Retroactively apply for and accept the grant award for the 2019-20 Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Program Grant in the amount of \$630,000 from the County of Los Angeles for the period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.
- b. Execute the grant agreement with the County of Los Angeles for the period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, subject to the approval of the City Attorney as to form.

3. AUTHORIZE the Controller to:

- a. Establish a grant receivable and appropriate \$630,000 to appropriation account, account number to be determined, within Fund No. 339/70 for the receipt and disbursement of the 2019-20 Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Program Grant Funds.
- b. Transfer appropriation within Fund No. 339/70 as follows:

From:

<u>Fund/Department</u>	<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
339/70	70XXX	To Be Determined	\$229,168.19

To:

338/70	70XXXX	Related Costs	\$229,168.19
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- c. Increase on an as-needed basis from Fund No. 339/70, 2019-20 Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Program Grant appropriation, account number to be determined, to Fund No. 100/70, account numbers and amounts as follows:

<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1012	Sworn Salaries	\$349,235.28
1092	Sworn Overtime	45,000.00

4. AUTHORIZE the LAPD to:

- a. Spend up to the total grant amount of \$630,000 in accordance with the grant award agreement.
- b. Submit grant reimbursement requests to the grantor and deposit the grant receipts into Fund No. 339/70.
- c. Prepare Controller instructions for any technical adjustments, subject to the approval of the City Administrative Officer (CAO); and, authorize the Controller to implement the instructions.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The CAO reports that approval of the recommendations contained in the November 22, 2019 CAO report, attached to the Council file, will allow for the expenditure of the 2019-20 Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Grant Program award totaling \$630,000. The grant will provide 100 percent of the salary and fringe benefits costs of two resolution authority positions, consisting of one Detective III position and one Detective II position; the grant will also provide 59 percent of the costs for one regular Detective II position, overtime funding for sworn personnel, and other expenses. No matching funds are required for this grant. All other sworn salary and fringe benefit costs supporting this grant program are already funded in the 2019-20 Adopted Budget and do not represent any additional General Fund impact.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On January 22, 2020, the Public Safety Committee considered November 22, 2019 CAO and August 13, 2019 Board of Police Commissioners reports relative to the 2019-20 Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Program Grant. According to the CAO, the Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Trust Fund (Trust Fund) is funded by a filing fee for real estate documents recorded in the County, as provided by California Government Code Section 27388. The Trust Fund supports the efforts of local law enforcement and prosecuting agencies to investigate and prosecute real estate fraud. The County evaluates applications for funds and provides grant awards to selected jurisdictions. The level of annual funding provided by the fee is dependent upon the number of document titles filed within the County of Los Angeles.

The grant reimburses a portion of the annual cost of the LAPD's Real Estate Fraud Unit (REFU). The REFU, which is within the LAPD's Commercial Crimes Division, is responsible for administering the City's Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Program. This unit handles white-collar real estate crimes within the City. The REFU is currently comprised of four full-time staff. Currently, three of the positions, one Detective III and two Detective IIs, are authorized by Council Resolution and are funded by the grant, leaving one regular authority Detective II position funded by the General Fund. The LAPD is requesting that the resolution authority positions be reauthorized for 2019-20. Finally, the CAO noted that the recommendations in its report differ from those in the Board of Police Commissioners report as the LAPD subsequently submitted a budget modification to the County which altered the positions to be funded from two Detective IIIs to those reflected in this report (one Detective III and one Detective II). The County approved the change in positions on September 20, 2019.

After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Public Safety Committee moved to recommend approval the recommendations contained in the CAO report and detailed in the above recommendations. Subsequently, on February 5, 2020, the Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee also considered this matter and after having provided an opportunity for public comment, moved to concur with the Public Safety Committee. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.


Respectfully Submitted,

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE



<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
RODRIGUEZ:	YES
O'FARRELL:	YES
BUSCAINO:	ABSENT
RYU:	YES
LEE:	YES

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE



<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
KORETZ:	YES
LEE:	YES
PRICE:	YES
ARL	

2/5/20

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-