

COMMUNICATION FROM VICE-CHAIR AND MEMBER, PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE relative to 2014 Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Program grant award for use by the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD).

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

1. AUTHORIZE the Chief, LAPD, or designee, to:

- a. Retroactively apply for and accept the 2014 Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Program grant award in the amount of \$168,980 from the Department of Justice for the period October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015.
- b. Negotiate and execute the 2014 Program Agreement on behalf of the City and submit all necessary documents relative to the grant award and to negotiate, execute, and submit any other necessary agreements and documents relative to the grant, subject to the approval of the City Attorney as to form and legality.

2. AUTHORIZE the LAPD to:

- a. Submit grant reimbursement requests to the grantor and deposit grant receipts in the Police Department Grant Trust Fund No. 339/70.
- b. Spend up to the total grant amount of \$168,980 in accordance with the grant award agreement.

3. AUTHORIZE the Controller to:

- a. Establish a grant receivable in Fund 339 in the amount of \$168,980 and establish an appropriation account, account number to be determined, within Fund 339/70 for the receipt and disbursements of 2014 Coverdell grant funds.
- b. Increase appropriations on an as-needed basis from Fund No. 339/70, appropriation account number to be determined, to Fund No. 100/70, as follows:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
001010	Salaries Civilian	\$14,258
001090	Overtime Civilian	117,078
001092	Overtime Sworn	<u>31,356</u>
		Total: \$162,692

4. TRANSFER \$6,288 within Fund No. 339/70, to an appropriation account number to be determined for related costs.
5. AUTHORIZE the LAPD to prepare Controller's 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 this action will not impact the General Fund. The above recommendations comply with City financial policies in that one-time revenue is used for a one-time expense.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

SUMMARY

In a report to Council dated November 6, 2014 (attached to the Council file), the CAO states that LAPD requests authority to apply for and accept the 2014 Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Program grant award. Grant funding will be used to validate the BULLETRAX system, a new ballistic identification technology used by LAPD to capture high-resolution images and topographic information from fired bullets. On October 7, 2014, the Board of Police Commissioners approved LAPD's request. The CAO concurs with this action.

According to the CAO, the objective of this program is to help improve the quality and timeliness of forensic science and medical examiner services and/or to eliminate backlogs in the analysis of forensic evidence. LAPD has used the BRASSTRAX ballistic technology system to identify cartridge cases for twenty years but has relied on staff-intensive, hands-on analysis for bullet evidence. The BULLETRAX system is anticipated to expedite the analysis of bullet evidence by about fifty-percent from the current rate. The BULLETRAX system will also enhance the ability of LAPD, and its law enforcement partners in Southern California, to develop a ballistic database to quickly and efficiently compare the characteristics of bullets entered into the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network system. Grant funds will be used for civilian salaries and overtime, sworn overtime, and other related costs.

At the Public Safety Committee meeting held November 14, 2014, the Committee Vice-Chair and Member recommended that Council authorize LAPD to accept this grant, as recommended by the Board of Police Commissioners and the CAO.

Respectfully Submitted,

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
ENGLANDER:	ABSENT
BUSCAINO:	YES
BONIN:	ABSENT
O'FARRELL:	YES
MARTINEZ:	ABSENT

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