

REPORT FROM

OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Date: October 27, 2022

CAO File No. 0220-03891-0020

Council File No. 22-1149

Council District:

To: The Mayor
The Council

From: *Yplenda Chavis*
for Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer

Reference: Mayor Transmittal dated September 29, 2022; Additional information provided through October 26, 2022

Subject: **ACCEPTANCE OF A \$300,000 AWARD FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA (CDCA) 2020 PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS (PSN) GRANT FROM THE U.S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ), BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE (BJA) TO SUPPORT THE CITY'S SURGE COMMUNITY AMBASSADOR PROGRAM**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

1. Authorize the Mayor, or designee, to accept the 2020 Project Safe Neighborhoods (2019 PSN) Grant in the amount of \$300,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), for support the City's Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD) Program, effective for a performance period of September 30, 2022 through September 30, 2023, and submit any other necessary agreements and documents relative to the implementation of this program, subject to the review and approval of the City Attorney as to form and legality;
2. Adopt the attached Governing Body Resolution as requested by the grantor and subject to the City Attorney as to form, which endorses the grant agreement and attests to compliance with the program and funding requirements of the grant;
3. Authorize the Mayor, or designee, to negotiate and execute a contract with Community Partners in an amount not to exceed \$278,430, to implement the Surge Community Ambassador Program in the Southeast GRYD Zone and Division, effective for a one-year performance period from September 30, 2022 through September 30, 2023, subject to the availability of funds, compliance with City contracting requirements, and the review and approval of the City Attorney as to form;

4. Authorize the Controller to establish a new fund entitled 2020 Project Safe Neighborhoods (2020 PSN) Grant Fund No. XXX/46, recognize a receivable in the amount of \$300,000, disburse the grant funds upon presentation of documentation or proper demand from the Mayor’s Office, and create new appropriation accounts within the new Fund No. XXX/46, as follows:

Account Number	Account Name	Amount
46W146	Mayor	\$ 15,333
46W299	Reimbursement of General Fund	\$ 6,237
46W304	Contractual Services	\$278,430
	TOTAL:	\$300,000

5. Authorize the Controller to increase appropriations within the Mayor’s Budget Fund No. 100/46, Account No. 001020 Salaries, Grant Reimbursed for up to \$15,333, to be reimbursed by grant-funded salary costs by the 2020 PSN Grant Fund No. XXX/46, Account No. 46W146, Mayor;
6. Authorize the Controller to transfer up to \$6,237 from the 2020 PSN Grant Fund No. XXX/46, Account No. 46W299, Reimbursement of General Fund, to the Mayor Fund No. Fund 100/46, Revenue Source Code 5346 Related Cost Reimbursement from Grants for reimbursement of grant-funded related costs;
7. Approve a Reserve Fund loan in the amount of \$200,000 to support youth intervention service related activities under the 2020 PSN Grant, which is to be repaid by the Mayor’s Office upon receipt of reimbursement from the DOJ on the PSN award;
8. Authorize the Controller to transfer \$200,000 from the Reserve Fund to the Unappropriated Balance Fund No. 100/58, and appropriate therefrom to the 2020 PSN Grant Fund No. XXX/46, Account No. 46W304 Contractual Services;
9. Request that the Mayor, or designee, submit invoices to DOJ on a quarterly basis to ensure timely repayment of the Reserve Fund loan for which full repayment is anticipated no later than the end of the grant performance period; and
10. Authorize the Mayor, or designee, to prepare Controller instructions for any necessary technical adjustments consistent with the Mayor and Council actions on the matter, subject to the approval of the City Administrative Officer, and authorize the Controller to implement the instructions.

SUMMARY

The Mayor’s Office of Gang Reduction and Youth Development (Mayor’s GRYD Office) requests authority to accept a grant award in the amount of \$300,000 for the Central District of California’s (CDCA) 2020 Project Safe Neighborhoods (2020 PSN) Grant from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). The grant funds will be used to support the City’s Surge

Community Ambassador Program and enhance intervention services within the Southeast Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD) Zone and Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) Division for the period of September 30, 2022 through September 30, 2023. There is no match requirement for this grant.

Background

The purpose of the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Grant Program is to promote safer neighborhoods and communities through concerted efforts to reduce violent crime, criminal gangs, and the illegal possession and use of firearms. This program provides critical funding, resources, and training for PSN teams (law enforcement, prosecutors, schools, community groups, and other entities) to combat violent crime and ensure safer communities by adopting a comprehensive approach to public safety. The program's effectiveness is contingent upon continuous coordination, cooperation, and partnerships of all stakeholders.

On February 21, 2021, the Mayor's GRYPD Office submitted a PSN application citing current crime data for a proposal to finance the City's Surge Community Ambassador Program to address the surge of gun violence in the Police Department's (LAPD) Southeast Division. This program not only enhances and supplements the City's gang intervention efforts in the Southeast GRYPD Zone, but complements the LAPD's Law Enforcement Purpose area efforts in the same community and proposed this program in their 2020 PSN application and award (C.F. 21-0849). On March 24, 2021, the City was awarded a grant in the amount of \$300,000 for this effort. This Office proposes adoption of the recommendations in this Report in that some modifications were necessary to enable implementation of the 2020 PSN Grant.

2020 Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant

The PSN funds will be utilized to support the City's Surge Community Ambassador Program in the GRYPD Zone service areas in LAPD's Southeast Division. The overall purpose and goal of the Surge Community Ambassador Program is to increase staffing capacity and active oversight in the area, and to provide strategic gang intervention services in neighborhoods experiencing upticks in violence. This is critical in areas where there may be crossovers of jurisdictional boundaries or gang territories that cross multiple GRYPD Zones or areas extending beyond City-County lines. Surge Ambassadors are employed by GRYPD contracted service provider agencies on an hourly basis and assigned to geographical areas to assist with responding to and reducing tension and violence through various services: crisis response, conflict mediation, de-escalation or diffusion of tensions, proactive peacekeeping, and facilitating violence interruption events. The additional staffing of Surge Ambassadors allows GRYPD program managers and service providers in collaboration with the LAPD and other community stakeholders to implement the strategic deployment of Surge Ambassadors for more coverage to those impacted areas of violence.

The GRYPD Surge Ambassadors are hired from the communities within the GRYPD Zone they are serving. The GRYPD staff work strategically with the mentors and contracted service providers to identify staff with the potential to represent the community and the Mayor's Office in implementing the GRYPD Comprehensive Strategy mission and goals. All Surge Ambassador staff are required

to undergo a background check and receive training to equip them with “License to Operate” (LTO) skills and expertise needed to be trusted representatives in accordance with the GRYD Intervention Policy Manual guidelines.

Grant Budget Breakdown

The grant funds are allocated for contractual services and personnel costs as follows:

2020 Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant Program September 30, 2022 – September 30, 2023	
<u>Category</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Mayor Salaries	\$ 15,333
Related Costs	\$ 6,237
Contractual Services	\$ 278,430
TOTAL:	\$ 300,000

The PSN Grant supports a portion of three positions (\$15,333) in the Mayor’s GRYD Office: one Program Director (\$6,479), one Program Manager (\$5,024), and one Grants and Training Coordinator (\$3,830). The GRYD staff will manage grant coordination and oversight of this program. Cost Allocation Plan (CAP) 41 rates were used to calculate the fringe benefit costs of \$6,237. The majority of grant funding (\$278,430) is allocated for a contract with Community Partners to implement the Surge Community Ambassador Program in the Southeast GRYD Zone. As the designated intervention service provider for the Southeast GRYD Zone, Community Partners plans to hire seven (7) Surge Ambassadors to deter and reduce incidents of violence. The Mayor’s Transmittal initially attributed two Mentor positions funded by this grant, but subsequently identified the General Fund as the correct funding source for these positions.

Reserve Fund Loan Request

The Mayor’s GRYD Office requests a Reserve Fund Loan in the amount of \$200,000 to facilitate cash flow and immediate disbursement to service providers for program-related activities associated with the implementation of Surge Community Ambassador Program and the provision of GRYD intervention services. The DOJ administers the PSN Grant Program on a reimbursement basis only, requiring grant recipients to front-fund expenditures prior to submitting requests for reimbursement. The Reserve Fund monies will be utilized for contractor advances to ensure uninterrupted service delivery. The Mayor’s Office may submit requests for reimbursement on a quarterly basis (as allowed by the grantor) to facilitate repayment of the Reserve Fund advance, with the expectation that full repayment will be made by the end of the grant performance period, or shortly thereafter. This Office recommends approval of a Reserve Fund loan in the amount of \$200,000.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The acceptance and implementation of the 2020 Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant in the amount of \$300,000 and the approval of grant-related actions will result in the provision of critical intervention services to at-risk and gang-affiliated youth and their families within the Southeast GRYD Zone. The proposed Reserve Fund loan of \$200,000 will be used to address a cash flow issue for the service provider and is anticipated to be repaid upon final reimbursement of the PSN grant funds. Although all program costs are fully reimbursable by the grant, any significant delays in the timely submission of reimbursement requests will impact the repayment of the Reserve Fund loan and result in a negative impact to the General Fund. Full repayment will not occur until the following fiscal year at the end of the grant performance period.

FINANCIAL POLICIES STATEMENT

The City's Financial Policies require that the City pursue federal, state and private grants but strictly limit financial support of these programs to avoid commitments that continue beyond available funding. The recommendations in this report comply with City Financial Policies in that the proposed funding is balanced against established revenue approved by Council actions and from Federal or State grant receipts. All funding is subject to the availability of grant funds and funding determinations by Mayor and Council.

MWS:JL:CLF:02230034C

Attachment

GOVERNING BODY RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES THAT:

Deputy Mayor, Mayor’s Office of Public Safety, OR

Grants & Finance Director, Mayor’s Office of Public Safety, OR

GRYD Director, Mayor’s Office of Public Safety, OR

Chief Legislative Analyst, Office of the Chief Legislative Analyst, or His/Her Designee, OR

City Administrative Officer, Office of the City Administrative Officer, or His/Her Designee,

are hereby authorized to execute for and on behalf of the City of Los Angeles, a public entity as established under the laws of the State of California, any actions necessary for the purpose of obtaining federal financial assistance under the Project Safe Neighborhood Grant (PSN) Program, as well as prior year PSN grants (FY 2019-2024) provided by the Department of Justice for the Central District of California and sub-granted through the State of California.

Passed and approved this _____ day of _____, 2021.

Certification

I, Holly L. Wolcott, duly appointed and City Clerk of the City Council of the City of Los Angeles do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution passed and approved by the City Council of the City of Los Angeles on the _____ day of _____, 2021.

CITY CLERK

Holly L. Wolcott

Date: _____