

Agenda Report

DATE: April 12, 1999

TO: City Council

FROM: City Manager

SUBJECT: Release of funds from the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grants (JAIBG) Program to the County of Los Angeles.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve the attached resolution authorizing the transfer of grant entitlements totaling \$65,736.00 available to the Pasadena Police Department, to the District Attorney's office of the County of Los Angeles. The money will be used in conjunction with similar grant fund money from the cities of Glendale and Burbank to hire a deputy district attorney for vertical prosecution of juvenile offenders in the Pasadena Juvenile Court.

BACKGROUND:

The Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grants Program (JAIBG), administered by the State Office of Criminal Justice Planning, has made available \$1,577,886.00 to cities within the County of Los Angeles. Pasadena's grant entitlement is \$65,736, and requires that Pasadena make a 10% matching fee. The funds are to be spent toward juvenile accountability within the juvenile justice system. Specific purpose areas include hiring additional judges, probation officers, court-appointed defenders, deputy district attorneys (DDA), establishing drug courts and drug testing programs, establishing information sharing programs, etc. Hiring additional police officers or using the funds to supplement existing programs is not permitted under this grant.

The amount of money available to the vast majority of individual cities, Pasadena included, is insufficient to adequately fund approved purpose areas such as contracting for the services of a full-time deputy district attorney. As a result, there was very little interest in the grant and, like Pasadena, virtually every city within L.A. County elected not to individually apply. In cases where no grant application is made, the money reverts back to the state.

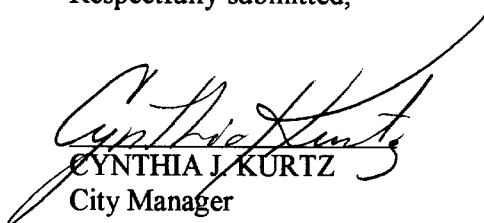
However, a provision of the grant offering allows cities, by way of resolution, to authorize the County to apply for their share of the grant funds should the City choose not to pursue the grant individually. Therefore, Pasadena, Glendale (\$43,669), and Burbank (\$32,659) Police Departments have negotiated with the District Attorney's office to pool their allocations for the purpose of retaining a Deputy District Attorney to exclusively serve these communities in prosecuting violent youthful offenders, and domestic violence cases in which children are negatively impacted.

If City Council approves the attached resolution, the City of Pasadena will waive its right to receive the grant entitlement directly. The funds are then authorized to be directed to, and expended by, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office for the mutual benefit of both the City of Pasadena and the County of Los Angeles. The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office will assume responsibility for the administration of the program, and will meet the 10% matching fee required by the terms of the grant. The assigned deputy district attorney will work exclusively with the three participating cities.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There will be no fiscal impact to the city.


Respectfully submitted,


CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
City Manager

Approved by:


Bernard K. Melekian
Chief of Police

Prepared by:


Keith Jones, Lieutenant
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