



Agenda Report

December 14, 2020

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
FROM: Pasadena Police Department
SUBJECT: ESTABLISHMENT OF A REWARD FUND FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO THE APPREHENSION AND CONVICTION OF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR CERTAIN CRIMES OF VIOLENCE IN PASADENA

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the proposed action is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 21065 of CEQA and Sections 15060 (c)(2), 15060 (c)(3), and 15378 of the State CEQA Guidelines and, as such, no environmental document pursuant to CEQA is required for the project;
2. Approve the establishment of a revolving reward fund of \$10,000 to aid in the apprehension and conviction of persons responsible for certain crimes of violence.

BACKGROUND:

In recent months, the City of Pasadena has been plagued with crimes of violence in the community. Of note are the three recent homicides in Villa Parke with all of the victims unarmed and with no known gang ties. Pasadena has experienced more than 20 shooting victims this year with more than 50 gun violence incidents.

From time to time, it may be useful to offer a reward for a particular incident in order to keep justice for the victim in mind, to generate clues toward solving a crime and to put pressure on the perpetrator from the knowledge of a reward for information leading to their arrest and conviction. Therefore, it is proposed that the City establish a reward fund to motivate witnesses to come forward in order to bring justice for the victims of violent crime.

As envisioned, rewards would be offered on a case-by-case basis as determined by the Chief of Police, for information leading to the apprehension and conviction of any person or persons whose willful misconduct results in injury or death to others. Conviction of the person or persons responsible for the crime shall be required for payment of a reward unless the City Council makes a finding of impossibility of conviction due to the death or incapacity of such person or persons.

If approved by the Council, the Chief of Police would establish operating guidelines for the program subject to review by the City's Senior Internal Auditor and approval by the City Manager.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:

The proposed action is consistent with the City Council's General Plan Goal to ensure public safety and maintain fiscal responsibility and stability.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The action proposed herein is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with Section 21065 of CEQA and State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15060 (c)(2), 15060 (c)(3), and 15378. The distribution and appropriation of potential reward monies is a government fiscal activity that does not involve in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. Therefore, the proposed action is not a "project" subject to CEQA, as defined in Section 21065 of CEQA and Section 15378 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Since the action is not a project subject to CEQA, no environmental document is required.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The proposed action is to establish a revolving reward fund to be initially seeded with \$10,000 drawn from existing appropriations within the Police Department's Operating Budget (Violent Crimes account 10133020-811400). As rewards are offered and expended, the Police Department would be expected to identify future funding within its operating budget to maintain the fund.

Respectfully submitted,



JOHN E. PEREZ
Chief of Police

Prepared by:



JASON CLAWSON
Police Commander

Approved by:



STEVE MERMELL
City Manager