



City of Emeryville

CALIFORNIA

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 13, 2021

TO: Christine Daniel, City Manager

FROM: Office of the Chief of Police

SUBJECT: Resolution of the City Council Authorizing the City Manager to Accept a Grant Award on Behalf of the Police Department, From the FY2019 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) in the amount of \$16,500 For Funds Related to a Ballistic Shields and a RADAR System

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the City Council of the City of Emeryville to adopt the attached resolution approving the grant award funding from the FY2019 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) in the amount of \$16,500 for four ballistic shields and one patrol vehicle dash mounted RADAR device. The Police Department obtained grant funding from the Alameda County Sheriff's Office who administers the SHAGP grant. The equipment requested would be used by the patrol staff to increase officer safety and to conduct speed enforcement.

BACKGROUND

The SHSGP program is an annual pass-through grant from the federal government. Alameda County Sheriff's Office manages the grant and disperses funding to municipalities in the County for equipment, training, and resources as needed. The Police Department applied for and was granted \$16,500 in funding for small portable ballistic shields officers can keep in their patrol vehicles and for a patrol vehicle mounted RADAR system.

The proposal for ballistic shields is for the specific purpose of increasing officer safety for our staff when encountering potentially volatile situations. The shields are small, lightweight and can be stored in a patrol vehicle. The shield would have the purpose of being deployed by officers during incidents where the potential for hostile assaults on officers could occur. The Police Department has two shields. One is approximately 15 years old and the second is approximately 10 years old. The shields generally have a lifespan of less time than these based on the material used to manufacture the shields as well as the lifespan of the ballistic rating.

The patrol mounted vehicle RADAR system would be used for conducting vehicle speed enforcement on City streets. One officer uses a handheld speed measuring device (LIDAR) but the Department does not have any handheld or vehicle mounted speed RADAR devices. This device would allow officers to conduct speed enforcement

throughout the City. Providing this equipment to officers would be a great deterrent to drivers who habitually speed and would be away officers can respond to complaints of speeding vehicles from community members.

The grant period is October 1, 2019, through September 30, 2021.

DISCUSSION

The benefits of accepting this grant award will directly impact safety in our City. The ballistic shields would provide officers with another tool to deescalate and resolve potentially violent situations without having to resort to using force. The RADAR device will provide officers with a way to enforce vehicle speed violations to increase safety for our pedestrians, bicyclists, and other motorists.

Like all tools and technologies available to law enforcement, the shields and the RADAR systems must also be carefully managed, and staff needs to ensure property training. Agencies must clearly articulate their strategic goals and tactical objectives for the use of these systems. Thorough and ongoing training will be a strategy of the staff to ensure speed enforcement is legally enforced and that any use of the shields is appropriate.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact to the City will be the initial expenditure of costs associated with the purchase of the proposed equipment. However, since the SHSGP grant operates through a reimbursement process, there will be no real impact to the budget. Some police staff time will be required to administer the awarded grant; this staff time is considered part of their normal duties. It is anticipated the initial expenditure for the equipment will come from the FY21/22 budget and the reimbursements will be received during the same fiscal year.

STAFF COMMUNICATION WITH THE PUBLIC

As of this time there has been no communication with the public as the grant award funding was approved as the country was during the COVID-19 pandemic.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

CONCLUSION

This program offers a great opportunity for the City of Emeryville, the Emeryville Police Department and to the Emeryville community. Staff recommends accepting the grant award to enhance our community safety capabilities within our community.

PREPARED BY: Jeff Jennings, Chief of Police
By: Oliver Collins, Captain

**APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EMERYVILLE:**



Christine Daniel, City Manager

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Resolution
2. Grant Application