

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU FISCAL ANALYSIS

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

ITEM 7 FILE #061123

JANUARY 4, 2007

JEFF OSTERMAN

File Number 061123 is a resolution relating to application for, and acceptance and funding of, a U.S. Department of Justice Weed and Seed Grant for the Historic Clarke Square neighborhood.

Background

1. On May 31, 2006, the Common Council adopted File Number 060053, a resolution authorizing application for, and acceptance and funding of, a U.S. Department of Justice Weed and Seed grant for the Historic Clarke Square neighborhood, which is bounded by West Pierce Street, West Greenfield Avenue, South Cesar Chavez Drive and South Layton Boulevard..
2. The amount of this grant is \$175,000 for the period extending from October 1, 2006, to September 30, 2007. There is no City match.
3. The “weed” portion of this grant is \$87,500 allocated to the Milwaukee Police Department as follows:
 - Police overtime expenditures - \$70,000 for directed patrol missions (interdiction) and additional foot and bike patrols.
 - Equipment - \$11,000 for bicycles, bike patrol clothing, night vision goggles, a digital still camera, a digital video camera, a laptop computer and a projector.
 - Travel - \$2,836 for travel to Weed & Seed conferences and seminars.
 - Supplies - \$2,500 for “CAUTION SLOW DOWN” signs and Weed & Seed ID banners.
 - Other - \$1,164.
4. The “seed” portion of this grant is \$87,500 allocated to the Community Development Grants Administration Division to be expended as follows:
 - Consultants/Contracts - \$77,540, including \$45,000 to hire a full-time site coordinator, \$10,000 for 25% of the cost of an outreach worker and \$16,450 for Safe Haven services (staff to provide GED and ESL instruction).
 - Supplies - \$4,500 for neighborhood clean-up supplies (trash bags, shovels, brooms, etc.) and office supplies.
 - Travel - \$3,600 for travel to Weed & Seed workshops and conferences.
 - Other - \$1,840.

Discussion

1. Although the current Weed and Seed project for the Historic Clarke Square neighborhood has been underway for just 3 months, the U.S. Department of Justice has set a deadline of January 9, 2007, for application for a grant for the next funding cycle.
2. The grant period for the next funding cycle will extend from October 1, 2007, through September 30, 2008.
3. The Community Development Grants Administration Division receives these grant funds and authorizes transfers to the budgets of subrecipients (namely CDGA itself and the Police Department).
4. To date, no site coordinator has been hired for the Historic Clarke Square Weed and Seed project.

Fiscal Impact

1. This resolution authorizes application for, and acceptance and expenditure of, a \$200,000 U.S. Department of Justice Weed and Seed grant for the Clarke Square neighborhood. There is no required local match for this grant.
2. The grant budget provides for \$100,000 to be expended for law enforcement (“weed”) activities and \$100,000 to be expended community organization and improvement (“seed”) activities in the Historic Clarke Square neighborhood.
3. A detailed breakdown of expenditures was not available at the time this analysis was written. The detailed budget must be set by the Historic Clarke Square Steering Committee, which has not yet finalized the project budget for the next grant period. However, it is anticipated that the types of expenditures will be similar to those described above for the current grant project.

Prepared by: Jeff Osterman, X2262
LRB-Research & Analysis Section
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cc: Barbara Butler
Sue Kenealy
Steven Mahan
Dep. Insp. Anna Ruzinski
Marianne Walsh