

LRB-FISCAL REVIEW SECTION ANALYSIS

MARCH 8, 2001 AGENDA
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

ITEM 8, FILE 001577
DR. MICHAEL BONDS

This file authorizes the Milwaukee Police Department to accept funding of \$891,400 from the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Office of Justice for a Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant. The State will provide \$802,260 (90%) of the grant, while the Police Department will contribute \$89,140 (10%) in the form of an in-kind match.

Background

1. In March 1999, the Common Council adopted File 981631 authorizing the Police Department to apply for funds under the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program. That file required the Police Department to return to the Common Council to accept and expend any grant funds that may be received.
2. The Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant program (JAIBG) is a federal program that was created by Congress in 1998 to promote greater accountability in the juvenile justice system. Funding is provided to states for the improvement of policies, programs, and administrative systems that foster the creation of safe communities and reduce the incidence and negative consequences of juvenile crime and delinquency.
3. The State of Wisconsin has received \$4.4 million for this program. At least 75% of funds received by a State must be used to benefit local units of government. Therefore, the State will pass through about \$3.3 to local units of government, based on local law enforcement expenditures, including courts, prosecution and law enforcement. Under this formula, the City of Milwaukee is eligible for up to \$820,000.
4. In 2000, the Police Department received \$910,091 from this grant. That included \$819,829 provided by the grantor and \$91,092 provided by the Police Department in the form of an in-kind match. Those funds were used to purchase live-scan fingerprint stations, video mug shot and associated hardware equipment for all seven police district stations. All of the live-scan, video mugshot, and associated hardware and software has been purchased and installed within the Police Department.

Discussion

1. Under Federal Guidelines, JAIBG funds may be used in 12 program areas established by Congress. Unless there is a waiver of requirements, the Federal program requires that not less than 45% of JAIBG funds, excluding a 10% set aside for administration, be allocated for seven program purposes that are specifically directed toward enhancing prosecutorial and court resources that are not now performed by the City of Milwaukee. The Police Department is interested in two funding areas that are identified as eligible for a 35% allocation:

- “Establishing and maintaining interagency information-sharing programs that enable the juvenile and criminal justice systems, schools, and social services agencies to make more informed decisions regarding the early identification, control, supervision, and treatment of juveniles who repeatedly commit serious delinquent or criminal acts.”
 - “Building, expanding, renovating, or operating temporary or permanent juvenile corrections or detention facilities, including the training of correctional personnel.”
2. Under the City/County jail agreement, the City of Milwaukee is responsible for the temporary detention of juvenile prisoners. Federal law sets 6 hours as a maximum number of hours a juvenile may be held. Juvenile prisoner movement must be carefully tracked and reported to comply with Federal law. The City’s system for tracking juveniles is old and was intended for other purposes. Funding to improve detention flow and reporting would be a priority for the City under this grant program.
 3. Because local funding eligibility includes funding for prosecutorial, court and correctional services, as well as interagency cooperation, the Police Department will seek to make a joint application for JAIBG funds with Milwaukee County. Based on its own law enforcement expenditures, the County is eligible to receive around \$250,000. With the cooperation of the County, the City would seek a waiver in Federal requirements so that the City would be eligible to capture the maximum amount available to the City (\$820,000) for City programs.
 4. This file provides funds for the Milwaukee Police Department to accept this grant so it can further automate its booking process and finger printing tasks used for processing juveniles in custody.
 5. This grant will be used to acquire a two-finger fast identification system with associated software, hardware and programming to further update and enhance Police Department’s Juvenile booking process.
 6. There have been no new personnel assigned to this grant or changes in the staffing pattern as a result of the new equipment. Also, there are no changes in staffing patterns anticipated with the 2001 grant.
 7. There are no other units of governments involved directly with this grant.
 8. This grant operates from July 1, 2000 to September 30, 2001.

Fiscal Impact

None