

## LRB – FISCAL REVIEW SECTION ANALYSIS

APRIL 11, 2002 AGENDA

ITEM 12, FILE 011709

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

TERRI GABRIEL

Resolution relative to the application, acceptance, and funding of the U.S. Department of Justice Weed and Seed Grant – North for \$225,000, the Weed and Seed - South for \$225,000, and the Weed and Seed – United South for \$225,000 and authorization of the Community Relations – Social Development Commission to exercise administrative and supervisory functions.

### BACKGROUND

1. The Weed and Seed Program, a U. S. Department of Justice community-based initiative, is an innovative and comprehensive multi-agency approach to law enforcement, crime prevention, and community revitalization.
2. The City of Milwaukee has participated in the Federal Weed and Seed Program since 1994. The original Federal grant provided \$616,617 to fund the participation of the Milwaukee Police Department and 8 community groups in Weed and Seed activities on the North Side of the Milwaukee. In 1998, funds were received to expand the program to the South Side.
3. File 980248, adopted in June 1998, transferred responsibility for program supervision and administration from the City's Community Block Grant Administration office (CBGA) to the Social Development Commission (SDC). This transfer included the transfer of grant funds from previously accepted City grants, excluding grant funds received by the Police Department under this program. The intent of the transfer was to merge the City's Weed and Seed efforts with a new contract SDC anticipated from the Wisconsin Department of Human and Family Services to maximize resources.

### DISCUSSION

1. This file authorizes the application, acceptance and funding of three Weed and Seed grants. The operation of these grant programs from October 1, 2002 through September 30, 2003 would cost \$320,297 for the Weed and Seed – North, \$323,439 for the Weed and Seed – South, and \$314,599 for the Weed and Seed – United South.
2. Of the \$675,000 to be received under these grants, \$337,500 (\$112,500 from each grant) is for the City of Milwaukee Police Department.

- The community portion of the Weed and Seed grants, which is now managed by SDC, continues the community liaison program, as well as safe site/safe place support.

## FISCAL IMPACT

The table below shows the City's share for the grants.

Recipient Program	City Share Amount
Weed and Seed – North	\$95,297
Weed and Seed - South	\$98,439
Weed and Seed – United South	\$89,599

The City Share Amount is the Milwaukee Police Department's direct costs, i.e., overtime pay and related fringe benefits, and indirect costs, i.e., maintenance of building, utilities, and photocopier.

According to the Community Block Grant Administration (CBGA), a monthly average of 600 (unduplicated) children and teens visit 4 Safe Haven sites:

- SDC Westside Safe Haven, 2201 North 35<sup>th</sup> Street
- South Division High School, 1515 West Lapham Avenue
- Forest Home Avenue School, 1516 West Forest Home Avenue
- Auer Avenue School, 2319 West Auer Avenue.

The Social Development Commission attributes a reduction in crime to the Weed and Seed Program. The following percentages are based on the number of select violent felony offenses, defined as homicide, weapon offenses, aggravated assault, and sexual assault.

Area	% Reduction in Felony Offenses 2000 -2001
Avenue West	35%
Metcalfe Park	18%
Midtown	10%
United South	25%
Weed and Seed - South	10%

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 LRB- Fiscal Review  
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