Office of Management, Analysis & Planning
Grant & Community Development Coordination
749 W. State Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233
Phone: 414.935.7835

MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Grant Award Summary

GRANT NO: 2021-SS-01-
15930

ShotSpotter City of Milwaukee Grant 2021

Grant Type: Grant Continuation

Grantor: State of Wisconsin Department of Justice

Grant Period: July 1, 2020- June 30, 2021

Award Amount: $175,000

Match Required: N/A

Fiscal Agent: Milwaukee Police Department (MPD)

MPD Sub-Awardee: N/A

Allocation Purpose: It is the mission of the department to decrease injuries and/or fatalities by rapidly responding to the area of detected shots to investigate ShotSpotter (SST) alerts following established standards of officer safety, investigative protocol, and evidence recovery standards.

Program Goals

The purpose and goal of this continuing program is to have the ShotSpotter system provide real-time data relative to actual shots being fired to assigned monitoring department personnel. The department is then able to rapidly respond to the area of the detected shots in order to take further needed police action and investigative efforts.

Programmatic Summary

The SST system guarantees detection of 80% of gunfire within the coverage area within 25 meters of the incident. SST publishes the event in 60 seconds or less 90% of the time. The SST system allows the police department the ability to better track overall shots fired incidents, conduct better predicative analysis, and allow for the most cost effective and expeditious method relative to the deployment and redeployment of police resources based upon the data. This audio recording is then sent to the IRC. SST personnel review the sound files for verification and classify the incident as a gunshot, multiple gunshots or possible gunshots. Furthermore, SST data and casing collection supports the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) investigations and leads to link cases, solve crimes, and prevent future offenses.

In 2017, MPD was identified as a recipient of the SST grant under the Wisconsin Act 59 to continue the SST program for crime prevention. The awarded amount will support MPD's deployment of the SST program in the City of Milwaukee and will be further utilized for maintenance of software technology.

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Data:

The ShotSpotter (SST) Program is a continued initiative by MPD. The SST system provides real-time data relative to shots being fired which is reviewed by the Intelligence Fusion Center (IFC) and the Incident Review Center (IRC). SST technology detects outdoor audible gunfire within the coverage area through the use of acoustic sensors capable of pinpointing the accurate location of a gunfire event. The system is designed to detect gunshots in order to decrease injuries and/or fatalities by rapidly responding to the area of detected shots to investigate ShotSpotter (SST) alerts following established standards of officer safety, investigative protocol, and evidence recovery standards.

Table 1 displays January 1-December 31, 2017-2019 and provides year to date (January 1-October 18, 2020) ShotSpotter activations. Attached is a SST hotspot map that displays the areas in the City of Milwaukee with the highest concentration of SST activations. This map can be useful for prioritizing resources.

Table 1

ShotSpotter (SST) Activations	2017	2018	2019	2020YTD	2018-2019 % Change
Single Gunshot SST Alerts	2,698	2,241	3,005	4,003	34%
Multiple Gunshot SST Alerts	5,716	4,269	4,185	7,759	-2%
Possible Gunshot SST Alerts	766	511	716	1,134	40%
Total SST Alerts	*9,180*	*7,021*	*7,906*	*12,896*	*13%*

2020 ShotSpotter Activation Density

The density layer on the map represents the North and South ShotSpotter coverage area in the City of Milwaukee. Dark blue shaded areas represent a higher concentration of ShotSpotter activations for the time period of January 1-October 18, 2020. In 2020, there were 12,896 total ShotSpotter alerts in both coverage areas; 31% (4,003) were single gunshot activations; 60% (7,759) multiple gunshot activations and 9% (1,134) were recorded as possible gunshots.

Legend:
Police Districts

2020 ShotSpotter Activation Density
Low — Moderate — High

Scale: 0 — 0.5 — 1 — 2 Miles