



Date: October 4, 2011

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager
Through: Theodore L. Voorhees, Deputy City Manager
From: Jose L. Lopez, Sr., Chief of Police
Subject: 2011 Grant to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program (GTEAP)

Executive Summary

The Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women (DOJ/OVW) has awarded the City of Durham through the Durham Police Department the “2011 Grant to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders.” This grant funding will be used to centralize and coordinate police enforcement, prosecution, and judicial responsibility for sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking cases, along with strengthening legal advocacy services for victims. The total Federal award amount is \$339,459 with no matching funds requirement.

Recommendation

The administration recommends that the City Council authorize the City Manager to accept the “2011 Grant to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of protection Orders Program” Award by executing the grant documents; and

adopt the “2011 Grant to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program” Grant Project Ordinance, in the amount of \$339,459.

Background

The federal Office of Violence Against Women’s Grant to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program, provides the opportunity to develop and strengthen effective responses to violence against women. It encourages communities to treat domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking as serious crimes by strengthening the criminal justice response to these crimes and promotes a coordinated community response. Victim safety and offender accountability are the center piece of Arrest Program projects.

The City of Durham, through the Police Department, will use this funding to pay the salary, fringe benefits, and operating costs for: one full-time Domestic Violence Assistant District Attorney, one full-time domestic violence victim/witness legal assistant, and one full-time legal advocate, for two years. The funding will also pay for specialized and advance training regarding domestic violence with some focus on victim of South Asian descent.

Issues/Analysis

The main issue is whether to accept this funding opportunity from the federal Office on Violence Against Women. If the City refuses to accept funding from the OVW for the support of 3 positions and training, it could negatively impact the possibility of future funding to the City of Durham, along with the Administrative Office of the Courts having to lay off one domestic violence assistance district attorney and victim legal assistant.

Alternatives

The Office on Violence Against Women has made this funding available to the City of Durham. The alternative would be to deny this motion which would limit the amount of training for the Domestic Violence Unit.

Financial Impact

There will be no financial impact on the City of Durham's general fund by accepting this award. The budget for this funding is as follows:

Budget Item	Amount
2011 GTEAP	<u>\$339,459.00</u>
Total Project	\$339,459.00

SDBE Summary

This item does not require review by the office of Equal Opportunity/Equity Assurance.