



Legislation Text

File #: 081019., Version: 0

Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program FY 2009 Formula Program: Local Solicitation (B)

The City Commission approve the use of \$448,816 from the Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funds and will authorize the grant application for these funds.

The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs' Bureau of Justice Assistance, has announced available grant funds to local units of government through the Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG). This grant program is authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The City of Gainesville is eligible to receive \$448,816 in funding through this grant. The JAG program allows local governments to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime. The funding distribution is based on population and crime statistics, as well as law enforcement expenditure data. The JAG Program blends the previous Byrne Formula and Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG) programs to provide agencies with the flexibility to prioritize and place justice funds where they are needed the most. The Gainesville Police Department proposes to utilize the funds received under this grant to continue the production of the Gainesville Police Department television show "Police Beat," provide resources to enhance crime prevention programs in the community including a Citizen Observer Program, technical equipment for the Investigations Bureau, Trauma Packs, Handheld Citation Devices, incident command vehicle for large-scale community events, a transportation vehicle for the Reichert House, scheduling software for overtime/special events and other technological enhancements including the acquisition of additional digital in-car video cameras for patrol vehicles, and other technical equipment for enhancements to the Laptop project.

The \$448,816 in grant funds provided by the U.S. Department of Justice through the Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant is distributed up front instead of on a reimbursement basis. The award can fund projects beyond a four year period, allowing successful initiatives to receive funding to continue and expand their efforts. There are no required local matching funds for this grant award.

The City commission authorize the City Manager to: 1) apply to the Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program for \$448,816 in grant funds; and 2) execute the grant application, grant award, and any other necessary documents, pending review by the City Attorney as to form and legality.

The City Commission decline the available Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Funds in the amount of \$448,816 and advise staff not to apply for and accept these funds.