

Capitola City Council

Agenda Report



Meeting: April 13, 2023

From: Police Department

Subject: Officer Wellness Grant

Recommended Action: Adopt a resolution accepting the Officer Wellness and Mental Health Grant award in the amount of \$20,000 from the California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC), authorizing the Police Chief to execute the grant agreement with BSCC, and authorizing the Finance Director to amend the FY 2023-24 general fund budget to increase revenues and expenditures by \$20,000.

Background: The Officer Wellness and Mental Health Grant Program, established in the 2022 California State Budget Act (Assembly Bill 178, Chapter 45, Statutes of 2022), provides \$50 million for city and county law enforcement agencies to improve officer wellness and expand mental health resources. The funding may be used for establishing or expanding officer wellness units, establishing or expanding peer support units, receiving services provided by a licensed mental health professional, expanding multi-agency mutual aid programs focused on officer wellness and mental health, or on other programs and services that are evidence-based or have a successful track record of enhancing officer wellness.

Discussion: The purpose of this grant is to improve officer wellness and to expand mental health sources. "Officer wellness" means the consideration of the physical, emotional, or mental condition or wellbeing of an officer. Mental health is as important as physical health and many times law enforcement officers shoulder the solemn responsibility of protecting the public, and deal with tremendous mental and emotional strain throughout their careers. Healthy officers are crucial to building healthy and safe communities.

Staff intends to use awarded funds to support the current Police Department officer wellness program for the next two years. Current programming focuses on mental and physical wellbeing, emotional support, and nutritional information. An internal staff survey was sent to Police Department staff to determine the most impactful way to allocate funds.

Fiscal Impact: No fiscal impact as there is no required General Fund match. Acceptance of the grant will increase revenues and expenditures by \$20,000. All funds received from the grant must be used for any of the purposes outlined above.

Attachments:

1. Award Letter
2. Funding Distribution Schedule
3. Draft Resolution

Report Prepared By: Esmeralda Gonzalez, Administrative Analyst

Reviewed By: Andrew Dally, Chief of Police; Julia Moss, City Clerk; Jim Malberg, Finance Director; Samantha Zutler, City Attorney

Approved By: Jamie Goldstein, City Manager