

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	U.S. Department of Justice FY21 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested to submit an application and accept, if awarded, an Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance (JAG) grant for the Federal Fiscal Year 2021 solicitation in the amount of \$104,731, or as otherwise awarded, with no local match requirement, to be used for eligible projects as defined in the grant, and to amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount of the award. The funding will be allocated as follows: Muscogee County Sheriff, for body-worn cameras -- \$48,738; Columbus Police Department, for GrayKey Online Licensing Subscription (Cyber Crime Unit) -- \$45,995; Columbus Fire/EMS, for EVO II Dual Thermal Drone -- \$9,998.
INITIATED BY:	Finance Department

Recommendation: Approval is requested to submit an application and accept, if awarded, an Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance (JAG) grant for the Federal Fiscal Year 2021 solicitation in the amount of \$104,731, or as otherwise awarded, with no local match requirement, to be used for eligible projects as defined in the grant, and to amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount of the award. The funding will be allocated as follows: Muscogee County Sheriff, for body-worn cameras -- \$48,738; Columbus Police Department, for GrayKey Online Licensing Subscription (Cyber Crime Unit) -- \$45,995; Columbus Fire/EMS, for EVO II Dual Thermal Drone -- \$9,998.

Background: The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program replaced the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant program in the Federal Fiscal Year 2005. The Columbus Consolidated Government is on the list of awardees for the annual local solicitation. The grant does not have a local match requirement. Eligible projects for the grant fall into the following categories: Law Enforcement, Prosecution and Courts, Prevention and Education, Correction and Community Correction, Drug Treatment, and Planning, Evaluation and Technology Improvement.

Analysis: All city departments or divisions involved in law enforcement, prosecution, or courts are eligible to use these grant funds. The grant requires that the local government’s governing body be notified of the application of this grant at least 30 days before the grant can be awarded. The grant also requires that the public be notified of the intent to apply for this grant and be allowed an opportunity to review and comment on the application. The Finance Department requested that all eligible and interested departments or divisions submit requests for funding projects from this grant, which resulted in three requests submitted and adjusted to fit within the grant’s budget.

Financial Considerations: The amount that the Columbus Consolidated Government is eligible to apply for is \$104,731. There is no local match requirement. The city will have four years in which to complete this grant.

Projected Annual Fiscal Impact Statement: The grant will bring in \$104,731 to the Multi-Governmental Fund over a four-year period, with most of the activity expected during the first two years. The General Fund will not be affected.

Legal Considerations: The Columbus Consolidated Government is eligible to apply for this grant award with Council approval. Council must approve the application for and acceptance of all grant awards and the City Manager, as Signing Authority, or his designee, must sign all required contracts, reports, and certifications. Upon signing, the City will be obligated to the U.S. Department of Justice to comply with the terms and conditions of the grant contract.

Recommendation/Actions: Accept and approve the application and subsequent award of the 2021 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of \$104,731 or as otherwise awarded and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount of the award.

A RESOLUTION

NO. _____

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPT A 2021 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$104,731, OR AS OTHERWISE AWARDED, WITH NO LOCAL MATCH REQUIREMENT, TO AMEND THE MULTI-GOVERNMENTAL FUND BY THE AMOUNT OF THE AWARD, AND TO ALLOCATE THE AMOUNT AWARDED TO THE FOLLOWING CITY DEPARTMENTS TO BE USED FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT, PROSECUTION AND COURT PROGRAMS SUPPORTED BY THE GRANT: MUSCOGEE COUNTY SHERIFF -- \$48,738, COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT -- \$45,995, COLUMBUS FIRE/EMS -- \$9,998.

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance has announced potential formula grant awards for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program FY 2021 Local Solicitation. This grant supports a broad range of activities for the prevention and control of crime and to improve the criminal justice system. These funds can be used for local initiatives, technical assistance, training, personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, and information systems for criminal justice, as well as research and evaluation activities that will improve or enhance: law enforcement programs; drug treatment and enforcement programs; planning, evaluation, and technology improvement programs; and crime victim and witness programs (other than compensation); and,

WHEREAS, the Columbus Consolidated Government is eligible to receive \$104,731 in funding with no local match requirement; and,

WHEREAS, the grant requires that the governing body be notified of the application at least 30 days prior to the award of the grant funds, and an opportunity for public review and comment be given; and,

WHEREAS, all eligible departments and divisions of the Columbus Consolidated Government were invited to submit allocation requests and the following requests were received and will be applied for in the grant application: Muscogee County Sheriff: \$48,738; Columbus Police Department: \$45,995; Columbus Fire/EMS: \$9,998.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

That the City Manager or his designee is hereby authorized to submit an application for, and if awarded, accept a FY21 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of \$104,731, or as otherwise awarded, with no local match requirement, and that the funds will be used by eligible departments as determined, and to amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount of the award.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the _____ day of _____ 2021, and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen voting _____.
Councilor Barnes voting _____.
Councilor Crabb voting _____.
Councilor Davis voting _____.
Councilor Garrett voting _____.
Councilor House voting _____.
Councilor Huff voting _____.
Councilor Thomas voting _____.
Councilor Thompson voting _____.
Councilor Woodson voting _____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson, Mayor