

**Columbus Consolidated Government  
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

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| <b>TO:</b>             | Mayor and Councilors  |
| <b>AGENDA SUBJECT:</b> | <b>U.S. Department of Justice FY24 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant</b>   |
| <b>AGENDA SUMMARY:</b> | Approval is requested to submit an application and accept, if awarded, an Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance (JAG) grant for the Federal Fiscal Year 2024 solicitation in the amount of \$53,407, or as otherwise awarded, with no local match requirement, to be used for eligible law enforcement, prosecution, and courts projects as defined in the grant, and to amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount of the award. |
| <b>INITIATED BY:</b>   | <b>Finance Department</b>   |

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**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 2024 solicitation in the amount of \$53,407, or as otherwise awarded, with no local match requirement, to be used for eligible law enforcement, prosecution, and courts projects as defined in the grant, and to amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount of the award.

**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 grant allows up to 10% of the award to be used to reimburse for costs incurred in the administration of the grant. The Finance Department requested that all eligible and interested departments or divisions submit requests for funding projects from this grant. The only department that responded for this year was the Adult Drug Court, which requested funding for program operating expenditures, so this year's application will be used for the Adult Drug Court, and if any funds remain, they will be used for grant administrative costs, as allowed by the grant.

**Financial Considerations:** The amount that the Columbus Consolidated Government is eligible to apply for is \$53,407. 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 \$53,407 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:** Approval is requested to submit an application and accept, if awarded, an Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance (JAG) grant for the Federal Fiscal Year 2024 solicitation in the amount of \$53,407, or as otherwise awarded, with no local match requirement, to be used for eligible law enforcement, prosecution, and courts projects as defined in the grant, and to amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount of the award.

**A RESOLUTION**

**NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPTANCE OF A 2024 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$53,407, 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 CITY DEPARTMENTS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT, PROSECUTION, COURTS, AND PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAMS SUPPORTED BY THE GRANT.**

**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 2024 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 \$53,407 in funding with no local match requirement. The Finance Department sent out notifications and requested that all eligible and interested departments or divisions submit requests for funding projects from this grant. The Finance Department then coordinated with the City Manager's Office to schedule a deadline for eligible departments to request allocations for the grant award. The Adult Drug Court was the only department to request funds for this year, so they will receive their allocation request, and any remaining funds will go toward administrative costs as allowed by the grant; 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,

**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 and if awarded, accept a FY24 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of \$53,407, or as otherwise awarded, with no local match requirement, and that the funds will be used by eligible departments as allocated, and to amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount of the award.

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Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2024, and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of \_\_\_\_\_ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen voting \_\_\_\_\_.  
Councilor Chambers voting \_\_\_\_\_.  
Councilor Cogle voting \_\_\_\_\_.  
Councilor Crabb voting \_\_\_\_\_.  
Councilor Davis voting \_\_\_\_\_.  
Councilor Garrett voting \_\_\_\_\_.  
Councilor Hickey voting \_\_\_\_\_.  
Councilor Huff voting \_\_\_\_\_.  
Councilor Thomas voting \_\_\_\_\_.  
Councilor Tucker voting \_\_\_\_\_.

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Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

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B.H. "Skip" Henderson III, Mayor