

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

City Council



STAFF

Perrie McMillen, Conflict Transformation Works Manager
Mary-Claire Geiss, Senior Specialist, Restorative Justice
Jo Cech, Fiscal Recovery Manager
Carisa Clinton, Senior Grants Analyst

SUBJECT

First Reading of Ordinance No. 117, 2025, Making Supplemental Appropriations from the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice for Restorative Justice Services and Approving the Intergovernmental Grant Agreement with the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this item is to appropriate \$35,637 of unanticipated revenue from the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice Juvenile Diversion fund awarded for the period July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026, to support the Restorative Justice programs in the Neighborhood Services Department in Sustainability Services. Restorative Justice Programs are part of the City's Conflict Transformation Works team, which also provide mediation services. The program will provide restorative justice services as an accountability option for 35 youth referred from the 8th Judicial District Attorney's Office.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Ordinance on First Reading.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

Restorative Justice Services and its three programs: RESTORE for shoplifting offenses, Restorative Justice Conferencing Program (RJCP) and Reflect Program for all other offenses, have been partially grant-funded since inception in 2000. Since it began, Restorative Justice Services has provided a restorative justice alternative to more than 3,200 young people who committed chargeable offenses in our community. The Council yearly accepts grant funds from the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice to support Restorative Justice Services.

This Colorado Division of Criminal Justice grant helps fund youth referred to the program from the 8th Judicial District Attorney's Office. Restorative Justice is an alternative method of holding a young person accountable by facilitating meeting with the responsible youth, the victim/victim representative, and members of the community to determine the harm done by the crime and how to repair the harm. Criminal Justice Officials are optimistic that by identifying and repairing the harm caused by the crime, repeat offenses by youth will be reduced and the needs and concerns of the victims and affected community will be addressed.

These programs help young people understand how family, friends, victims and community are harmed by their actions and hold them accountable for the harm they caused. The intention is that these young people will make better future decisions and not commit the same or a similar crime again. Reducing future criminal behavior and keeping young people out of the justice system both contribute positively to a safer and healthier community. Addressing the needs and concerns of those harmed by crime and community members also has a positive effect on the overall health and safety of the community. As part of the programs, youth and families are referred to appropriate community resources based on needs identified during program participation.

CITY FINANCIAL IMPACTS

The item appropriates \$35,637 to cover personnel costs for the Restorative Justice Specialist and the Conflict Transformation Works Program Assistant for time spent on the Restorative Justice Services program services.

The grant from Colorado Division of Criminal Justice is a reimbursement type grant, meaning General Fund expenses will be reimbursed up to \$35,637.

BOARD / COMMISSION / COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

None.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

None.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Ordinance No. 117, 2025