



AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

City Council

STAFF

Perrie McMillen, Manager, Restorative Justice Services
Aaron Guin, Senior Assistant City Attorney

SUBJECT

Second Reading of Ordinance No. 156, 2023, Making a Supplemental Appropriation from the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice of Unanticipated Grant Revenue for Various Restorative Justice Services Programs.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Ordinance, unanimously adopted on First Reading on November 21, 2023, appropriates grant revenue to fund Restorative Justice Services within Community Development and Neighborhood Services.

Additional grant funds in the amount of \$12,000 have been awarded from the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) Juvenile Diversion fund for the continued operation of Restorative Justice Services, which includes the RESTORE program for shoplifting offenses, and the Restorative Justice Conferencing Program (RJCP) and Reflect Program for all other offenses. The \$12,000 in grant funds are in addition to a grant awarded to Restorative Justice Services earlier this year from DCJ in the amount of \$57,356, bringing the total amount of the awarded grant to \$69,356. No match is required and the grant period is July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Ordinance on Second Reading.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

Restorative Justice Services has been partially grant-funded since its inception in 2000. Annually, the City accepts grant funds from DCJ to support Restorative Justice Services' three programs: RESTORE, RJCP, and the Reflect Program, which assist youth referred to the program from the Eighth Judicial District Attorney's Office. Since it began, Restorative Justice Services has provided restorative justice alternatives to more than 3,200 young people who have committed chargeable offenses in our community.

Restorative Justice is an alternative method of holding a young offender accountable by facilitating a meeting with the offender, the victim/victim representative and members of the community to determine the harm done by the crime, and how to address and repair the harm. By identifying and seeking to repair the harm caused by the crime, Criminal Justice Officials are optimistic that repeat offenses by these 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 the 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 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 victims 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.

Without grant funding and the support of the City, Restorative Justice Services would not be able to provide this service to young people and their families, victims, the courts, law enforcement and our community.

CITY FINANCIAL IMPACTS

These DCJ grant funds totaling \$12,000, are in addition to a \$57,356 grant from DCJ already received and appropriated earlier this year and will provide added funding for personnel to support the continuation of Restorative Justice Services. Funds are distributed to the City on a reimbursement basis.

BOARD / COMMISSION / COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

None.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

None.

ATTACHMENTS

First Reading attachments not included.

1. Ordinance for Consideration