



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

AGENDA DATE: February 26, 2024

AGENDA ITEM: Consider authorizing Grand Rapids Police Department to apply for the 2024 COPS Grant.

PREPARED BY: Chief Andy Morgan

BACKGROUND:

Grand Rapids Police Department is interested in applying for the 2024 COPS Grant offered by U.S. Department of Justice. This program furthers the COPS Office's goal of advancing public safety through community policing by funding additional full-time law enforcement positions to meet law enforcement agencies' community policing strategies.

In efforts of preparation for the grant opening, police leadership has done considerable work to better understand this opportunity. If successful, the grant would provide a total of \$125,000 over three (3) years to assist local agencies in offsetting costs associated with officer wages and benefits. Upon conclusion of the three (3) year grant period, the total financial responsibility would stand with the employer.

Grand Rapids Police Department was successful in receiving the COPS Grant in 2011 and Officer Tim Dirkes was hired.

The COPS Grant is expected to open in May of 2024. Grant notifications would occur in the Fall of 2024. Any additions to GRPD staff would not be expected until 2025.

GRPD will continue to work closely with internal and external partners to apply for two (2) 2024 COPS Grants.

REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION:

Make a motion to authorize Grand Rapids Police Department to apply for the 2024 COPS Grant.