

Information Item

Date: May 11, 2020

To: Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of the City Council

From: Tasha Logan Ford, Assistant City Manager
Catrina A. Thompson, Police Chief
Scott Tesh, Performance and Accountability Director

Subject:
Department of Justice (Bureau of Justice Assistance) Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Grant Recommended Expenditures

Strategic Focus Area: Safe and Secure Community
Strategic Objective: Improve Public Safety Service Quality
Strategic Plan Action Item: No
Key Work Item: No



As part of the Federal Government's CARES Act, passed by Congress to assist with the response to the novel coronavirus pandemic, the United States Department of Justice (DOJ), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), has made available the Fiscal Year 2020 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program (CESF) grant solicitation. This grant is formula-based, and the City of Winston-Salem's allocated amount is \$523,520. Grant funding from BJA to the City is usually permitted only for law enforcement and criminal justice purposes; however, CESF program funds can be used for any purpose related to preventing, preparing for, and responding to the coronavirus. There is no matching requirement for this grant. Eligible expenditures must be incurred as a direct result of the coronavirus. Per DOJ guidance, the funds may not be used to supplant current funds or offset lost revenues generally.

The Winston-Salem Police Department proposes to use this \$523,520 to cover the expenses shown in the table below.

<u>Expense Type</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
Laptop Computers	\$50,600
LexisNexis Reporting System	\$89,330
Street Smart for COVID-19 Tracking	\$165,000
PPE	\$187,000
Response Team Equipment	\$31,590
TOTAL	\$523,520

Laptop Computers (Qty 40 x \$1,265 each = \$50,600).

These laptops are required to facilitate teleworking for several of our civilian employees, and thus effectively practice social distancing while continuing to perform their duties from the safety of their home. Presently, personnel are borrowing laptops from the police trainees currently in the police academy. Once the trainees graduate from the academy, these laptops will need to be returned and teleworking will no longer be an attainable practice for our civilian employees.

LexisNexis Desk Officer Reporting System

(\$49,650/two years + \$29,360 CAD Integration Fee = \$79,010)

Annual recurring CAD integration fee of \$5,160 x 2 years = \$10,320

Total: \$89,330

LexisNexis Desk Officer Reporting System (DORS) is a system that the agency has recently been evaluating to enhance the overall efficiency and effectiveness of the agency. However, the recent pandemic and need for social distancing has upgraded this system to a need. This reporting system allows for non-emergency inbound calls to be routed to the DORS web application – providing individuals with instant access to the WSPD customized non-emergency incident reporting website, while freeing up staff to respond to emergency calls that require immediate attention. Community members have the ability to file reports, crime tips, and other incidents through our secure online reporting system. The system supports multiple languages while agency personnel can review the report in English, a tremendous benefit for the non-English speaking citizens of Winston-Salem. Most importantly, all of these services can be provided without the need for face-to-face contact, thus reducing the risk of community spread.

Street Smart for COVID-19 Tracking (\$15,000 setup fee + \$75,000/year x 2 years = \$165,000)

Street smart provides real-time data to keep employees up-to-speed, informed and most importantly, protected as they patrol our City. Officer-driven to provide essential facts about incidents and crime patterns in a specific area, Street Smart goes above and beyond the standard CAD and RMS search by supplying up-to-the-minute data feeds, maps, discussion, bulletins and case management tools. It is browser accessible on any Android or iOS device and on Mobile Computer terminals in the patrol car. This feature is significant for Detectives who may not be issued a laptop; they have the ability to share investigative information quickly to patrol officers on the street. It is used as both an internal method of communications and an external method of communications with a regional deployment (see below). There are features which will be valuable during COVID outbreaks and other pandemics to help protect ensure officer safety but also keep communities safe:

- Map data locations where positive COVID-19 cases exist on the Street Smart map to help keep your officers safe when reporting to 911 calls in these locations.

- Hold all meetings, roll call, patrol briefings, etc. in Street Smart's CJIS compliant discussion board instead of in person, to prevent any unnecessary exposure
- Combat the expected increase in crime due to job losses and the reduction of officers on the street with the easy-to-use tools of Street Smart.
- Street Smart helps bridge the communication gap and allows officers to do more with less by providing a state-of-the-art tool that enables officers to share relevant, structured, and unstructured information through situation-based bulletins and police discussion boards, connecting officers and the communities you serve.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

PPE for law enforcement personnel during COVID-19 outbreaks and other similar pandemics to ensure office safety during incident response (**\$187,000**):

- N95 Masks (Qty 25,000 x \$3 each = \$75,000)
- Hand Sanitizer (Qty 400 gallons x \$50/gallon = \$20,000)
- Latex Gloves (Qty 100,000 x \$5.50 per 1000 = \$1,500.00)
- PPE Biohazard Response Kits (Qty 500 x \$75/kit = \$38,000)
- Disinfectant Spray (Qty 1,000 cans x \$5.00/can = \$50,000)
- Disinfectant Wipes (Qty 200 cases x \$12/case = \$2,500)

Civil Disobedience Response Team Equipment (\$31,590).

Based on events in Raleigh and in other states, civil disobedience against shelter-in-place orders have posed major safety risks to civilians, government officials, and law enforcement, whether through the threat of violence or simply through potential exposure to COVID-19 via large crowds assembling. Law enforcement have been called to respond to these incidents. To ensure that WSPD is prepared to protect its Civil Disobedience Response Team, outdated equipment must be replaced so that it is up to code. This equipment includes shields, barricades, gloves, passive protector tools, flex cuffs, helmets, shin and arm protectors, gas mask carriers, gas Mask filters, magnum foggers, and magnum fogger carriers.