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REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Deputy Chief John Thomas, Police Department

DATE: October 17, 2024

SUBJECT: New Hampshire Attorney General's Drug Task Force Funding

Recommendation - Through the City Manager, authorize the Police Department to accept and appropriate funding in the amount of \$73,000 from the State of New Hampshire Department of Justice. Said funding to be utilized to assist in off-setting costs associated with the Police Department assigning a sworn officer to the Drug Task Force for the time frame of the date of appointment through 6/30/2025. This funding is a continuation of grant funding provided to the Department beginning in 2024 and expiring on 6/30/2025.

Background – Over the last year, the Police Department and Command Staff from the NH Attorney General's Drug Task Force engaged in discussions regarding the assignment of Concord Police Department staff to the Drug Task Force. This arrangement was determined to be in the best interest of both the Police Department and Drug Task Force. This arrangement serves as a force multiplier for the Department's efforts in combatting illegal drug activity in the community and also allows for the extensive investigative resources available through the NH Attorney General's Office. The Department is committed to engaging in an aggressive approach in addressing illegal drug activity in the City and working collaboratively with the Drug Task Force will be the one of the most effective means of accomplishing this. Through the Attorney General's Office, beginning at the time of appointment, a grant award in the amount of \$73,000 will be provided to offset personnel costs of the Police Department assigning a member to the Drug Task Force through June of 2025.

Discussion – The State of New Hampshire Attorney General's Drug Task Force has approved an award of \$73,000 to the Concord Police Department designated to offset personnel expenses associated with the Department assigning an Officer to the Drug Task Force. This funding will account for the time frame of time of appointment through June 30, 2025. This funding provides for \$73,000 prorated for this year for regular salary and benefits as well as \$8,000 per year for approved overtime. It is recommended that the City Council accept and appropriate this funding as it serves the best interest of both the Concord Police Department and the Drug Task Force in the coordinated effort to combat illegal drug issues in the community.

"Community Committed"