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REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: John G. Thomas, Deputy Chief of Police – Support Services

DATE: August 1, 2022

SUBJECT: 2021 American Rescue Plan Act Municipalities Grant Application

Recommendation - Through the City Manager, authorize the Police Department to apply for funding through the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act Municipalities Grant Program through the United States Department of Justice and the New Hampshire Department of Justice.

Background – The American Rescue Plan Act is federal funding for municipalities and state agencies to aid with activities related to relaxed COVID-19 restrictions. This funding is coordinated through the NH Department of Justice. The City of Concord is made up of 9,800 acres of conservation land, 23% of the City’s total acreage. The City has 84 miles of hiking/walking trails, 31 trail systems in total. Since the relaxing of COVID-19 restrictions the City has seen a significant increase in the use of all the hiking/walking trails throughout the City. With the increase use of the trails the City has experienced an up-tick in violent criminal activity on the trails and on the conservation areas, to include a double homicide. These areas are not easily accessible on foot or by bicycle when investigating or patrolling. With the use of two all-terrain vehicles (ATV), the Police Department will be able to monitor the trail systems and conservation areas more efficiently and proactively.

Discussion - The Concord Police Department will utilize funding provided by this grant to purchase two all-terrain vehicles (ATV), a trailer, and a pick-up truck. There is no City match for this grant. All grant related purchases will be funded through the American Rescue Plan Act grant program. The purpose of this grant is to reduce violent crimes on the trail systems and conservation areas allowing the Police Department to be more proactive in these areas of the City.

“Community Committed”