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REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: John G. Thomas – Deputy Chief of Police

DATE: August 31, 2023

SUBJECT: 2023 - 2024 Law Enforcement Opioid Abuse Reduction Initiative

Recommendation

Accept and appropriate the amount of thirty-eight thousand three hundred ninety dollars (\$38,390.00) in grant funding provided through the New Hampshire Department of Safety – Law Enforcement Opioid Abuse Reduction Initiative. Funds from this grant will be used by the Department to pay for overtime expenses incurred by the Department as it implements enhanced strategies in combatting the illegal drug/opioid crisis facing the City and surrounding communities.

Background

The New Hampshire Department of Safety has grant funding available under the Law Enforcement Opioid Abuse Reduction Initiative. The Concord Police Department applied to this grant program and has been awarded \$38,390.00 in unmatched grant funds through this initiative. This grant provides law enforcement agencies funding for overtime costs associated with identifying, investigating, and apprehending individuals and/or organizations that are involved in opioid/fentanyl related drug use and trafficking. The Department intends to utilize this grant funding to augment its current efforts in combatting illegal drug usage in the City and surrounding communities.

Discussion

This grant will allow for the Concord Police Department to fund overtime costs associated with implementing programs designed to address the opioid issue within the City and surrounding communities. These programs will be data/intelligence driven in order to direct resources most effectively in addressing this critical issue. The Department will also be sharing intelligence with the State and other law enforcement agencies in order to enhance the coordination of investigative efforts in combatting the illegal drug issue. There is no requirement for any matching city funds to be obligated for this grant program.

It is recommended that the City Council accept and appropriate these grant funds from the NH Department of Safety.