

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the 2014 Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Leveraging Innovative Solutions to Enhance Neighborhoods Program (LISTEN) Program to Address Police Bias through Community Mediation grant award for use by the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD).

Recommendations for Council action, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. AUTHORIZE the Chief, LAPD, or designee, to:
 - a. Retroactively apply for and accept the grant award for the 2014 LISTEN to Address Police Bias through Community Mediation grant in the amount up to \$99,962, for the period October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2016, from the United States Department of Justice COPS.
 - b. Negotiate and execute the Award Agreement, subject to the approval of the City Attorney approval as to form and legality.
2. AUTHORIZE the LAPD to:
 - a. Spend up to the grant amount of \$99,962 in accordance with the grant award agreement.
 - b. Submit grant reimbursement requests to the grantor and deposit grant receipts in Fund No. 339/70.
3. AUTHORIZE the Controller to:
 - a. Set up a grant receivable and establish an appropriations account, account number to be determined, within Fund No. 339/70, for disbursement of the 2014 LISTEN Program to Address Police Bias through Community Mediation grant in accordance with the grant award agreement.
 - b. Transfer appropriations for the LISTEN Program to Address Police Bias through Community Mediation grant as needed from appropriation account to be determined in Fund No. 339/70, to the Office of the City Attorney Fund No. 100/12, as follows:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
001010	Salary General	\$68,278

- c. Transfer appropriation, as needed, within Fund No. 339/70, to the City Attorney's Office Fund No. 100/12, for fringe benefits, as follows:

<u>Fund/Dept No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
From: 339/70	To be determined	\$25,062
To: 100/12	Related Costs	\$25,062

4. AUTHORIZE the LAPD to prepare Controller instructions for any technical adjustments, subject to the approval of the City Administrative Officer (CAO), and AUTHORIZE the Controller to implement the instructions.

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted by the LAPD. Neither the CAO nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

SUMMARY

In a report to Council dated January 20, 2015 (attached to the Council file), the CAO states that LAPD requests authority to accept the 2014 LISTEN Community Policing Development grant award in the amount of \$99,962 from DOJ COPS. The CAO reports that the grant will provide funding for work to be performed in partnership with the Office of the City Attorney and University of Southern California as part of the LISTEN program which has been developing a mediation approach to LAPD police bias complaints involving communities of color. The grant will provide \$68,278 for 50 percent of the salary for one Administrative Coordinator II in the Office of the City Attorney to process intake biased policing mediation referrals from the LAPD, schedule community meetings and related administrative tasks; \$25,062 for related costs; \$3,700 for LAPD consultants; and \$2,922 for supplies and other costs.

The CAO goes on to report that the COPS Community Policing Development program supports innovative community policing strategies, applied research, and development of guidebooks and best practices. The LISTEN program incorporates procedural justice and responsive principles to address police bias complaints, increase the City's ability to engage in community policing practices, enhance police-community relations, support enhanced understanding and behavioral changes by both officers and community members, and optimize the mediation experience. Prior to implementation of the LISTEN project, bias complaints were addressed in a quasi-legal, adversarial environment in which accused officers, represented by their attorneys, were questioned by the Internal Affairs Group (IAG) and community members were formally interviewed by IAG. In spite of the rigor of these investigations, there were few definitive outcomes, which dissatisfied both police officers and community member complainants. The mediation process is intended to improve this approach by allowing select complaints of biased policing to be mediated by a trained, neutral third party, providing a non-threatening, facilitated dialog to improve the understanding of each party toward the other and potentially repair their relationship.

On December 9, 2014, the Board of Police Commissioners approved LAPD's request to accept the grant and related actions. The CAO concurs with this action.

At its meeting held January 23, 2015, the Public Safety Committee recommended that Council authorize LAPD to accept the grant and to approve the related actions above, as recommended by the Board of Police Commissioners and the CAO.

Respectfully Submitted,

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
ENGLANDER:	YES
BUSCAINO:	YES
BONIN:	ABSENT
O'FARRELL:	YES
MARTINEZ:	ABSENT

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-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-