

PUBLIC SAFETY and PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE'S REPORT
relative to the 2020-21 Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Program Grant.

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

1. RESOLVE that the following three existing positions are APPROVED and CONFIRMED through June 30, 2021:
 - a. Two Detective II (Class Code 2223-2) positions.
 - b. One Detective III (Class Code 2223-3) position.
2. AUTHORIZE the Chief, Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), or designee, to:
 - a. Retroactively apply for and accept the grant award for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21 Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Program Grant in the amount of \$700,000 from the County of Los Angeles for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.
 - b. Execute the grant agreement with the County of Los Angeles for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, subject to the approval of the City Attorney as to form.
3. AUTHORIZE the Controller to:
 - a. Establish a grant receivable and appropriate \$700,000 to appropriation account, account number to be determined, within Fund No. 339/70 for the receipt and disbursement of the 2020-21 Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Program Grant Funds.

- b. Transfer appropriation within Fund No. 339/70 as follows:

From:

<u>Fund/Department</u>	<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
339/70	70XXX	To Be Determined	\$202,070.40

To:

338/70	70XXXX	Related Costs	\$202,070.40
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- c. Increase on an as-needed basis from Fund No. 339/70, FY 2020-21 Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Program Grant appropriation, account number to be determined, to Fund No. 100/70, account numbers and amounts as follows:

<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1012	Sworn Salaries	\$427,929.60
1092	Sworn Overtime	60,000.00

4. AUTHORIZE the LAPD to:

- a. Spend up to the total grant amount of \$700,000 in accordance with the grant award agreement.
- b. Submit grant reimbursement requests to the grantor and deposit the grant receipts into Fund No. 339/70.
- c. 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: The CAO reports that approval of the recommendations contained in the October 19, 2020 CAO report, attached to the Council file, will allow for the expenditure of the 2020-21 Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Program grant award totaling \$700,000. The grant will provide 100 percent of the salary costs of three resolution authority positions consisting of one Detective III and two Detective IIs; 100 percent of the fringe benefit costs of one Detective III position; 94 percent of fringe benefit costs for one Detective II position; overtime funding for sworn personnel; and, other expenses. No matching funds are required for this grant. The remaining fringe benefit costs of \$104,841 that is not supported by this grant program will be funded by the General Fund.

Financial Policies Statement: The CAO reports that the recommendations contained in the October 19, 2020 CAO report, attached to the Council file are in compliance with the City's Financial Policies in that one-time grant funding will be utilized for grant-eligible program expenditures.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On October 27, 2020, the Public Safety Committee considered October 19, 2020 CAO and September 1, 2020 Board of Police Commissioners reports relative to the FY 2020-21 Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Program Grant. According to the CAO, the Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Trust Fund (Trust Fund) is funded by a filing fee for real estate documents recorded in the County, as provided by California Government Code Section 27388. The Trust Fund supports the efforts of local law enforcement and prosecuting agencies to investigate and prosecute real estate fraud. The County evaluates applications for funds and provides grant awards to selected jurisdictions. The level of annual funding provided by the fee is dependent upon the number of document titles filed within the County of Los Angeles.

The grant reimburses a portion of the annual costs of the LAPD's Real Estate Fraud Unit (REFU). The REFU, which is within the LAPD's Commercial Crimes Division, is responsible for administering the City's Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Program. This unit handles white-collar real estate crimes within the City. The REFU is currently comprised of four full-time staff consisting of one Detective III and two Detective II resolution authorities funded by the grant, and one Detective III regular authority funded by the General Fund. The LAPD is requesting that the Resolution Authority positions be reauthorized for FY 2020-21. After consideration and

having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Public Safety Committee moved to recommend approval the recommendations contained in the CAO report and detailed in the above recommendations. Subsequently, on November 4, 2020 and November 9, 2020, the Personnel and Animal Welfare and Budget and Finance Committees also considered this matter and after having provided an opportunity for public comment, moved to concur with the Public Safety Committee. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

MEMBER VOTE

RODRIGUEZ:
O'FARRELL:
BUSCAINO:
RYU:
LEE:

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE

MEMBER VOTE

KORETZ: YES
LEE: YES
PRICE: YES

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

MEMBER VOTE

KREKORIAN: YES
PRICE: YES
KORETZ: YES
BLUMENFIELD: YES
BONIN: YES

ARL
11/12/20

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-