



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# City Council Memorandum

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL** **DATE: APRIL 17, 2018**

**FROM: RIVERSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT** **WARDS: ALL**

**SUBJECT: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION – GRANT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM 2018 FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT STRATEGIES FOR REDUCING TRESPASSING PILOT GRANT PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$150,000**

## **ISSUE:**

Approve the submission of a grant application, in the amount of \$150,000, to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Railroad Administration, for competitive funding that is available through the Law Enforcement Strategies for Reducing Trespassing Pilot Grant Program.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the City Council:

1. Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to submit the Law Enforcement Strategies for Reducing Trespassing Pilot grant application, accept the assurances and certifications, and make non-substantive changes in documents associated with the application; and
2. Upon grant award, authorize an increase in estimated revenues in the amount of \$150,000 into Revenue Account No. 9162400-331100 and appropriate expenditures in the same amount to the Police Department Account No. 9162400 – 413120 by Finance for the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Railroad Administration.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The mission of the Federal Railroad Administration is to enable the safe, reliable, and efficient movement of people. The Federal Railroad Administration accomplishes this mission primarily through issuance, implementation, and enforcement of safety regulations.

## **DISCUSSION:**

The Federal Railroad Administration is initiating a "Pilot Grant Program" to assist communities at risk for rail trespassing related incidents and fatalities. The Reducing Trespassing pilot grant

program funds would support the City's efforts to reduce rail trespassing occurrences. The object of the program is to evaluate the effectiveness of funding local law enforcement activities intended to reduce trespassing on the rail right of way.

In 2017, there were seven railroad-related fatalities in the city of Riverside, along with five incidents in which those hit by a train or found on the tracks survived. The incidents averaged nearly one per month. In the past, there have been fatalities among students from the local high schools that are located near the railroad tracks.

The Reducing Trespassing pilot grant would be implemented by the Riverside Police Department's Special Operations Division. The grant would fund overtime for rail trespassing enforcement related activities and RPD will report those activities and associated benefits to the Federal Railroad Administration. The data obtained from the activities performed in this Pilot Grant Program will help determine the effectiveness of funding local law enforcement agencies for rail trespass prevention activities.

The grant term is six months after the start date, tentatively July 1, 2018 through December 30, 2018.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The total grant award is estimated to be \$150,000. No matching funds are required.

Prepared by:	Sergio G. Diaz, Chief of Police
Certified as to	
availability of funds:	Adam Raymond, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Approved by:	Alexander T. Nguyen, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form:	Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney