



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL **DATE: JULY 16, 2019**
FROM: POLICE DEPARTMENT **WARD: ALL**
SUBJECT: OFFER OF A \$10,000 REWARD FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO THE IDENTIFICATION AND APPREHENSION OF PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MURDER OF LINDA FERGUSON – INTERDEPARTMENTAL TRANSFER

ISSUES:

Adopt a resolution offering a reward in the amount of \$10,000 for information that leads to the identification and apprehension of the person or persons responsible for the murder of Linda Ferguson, Police Department case 190016283, for a duration of 60 days and authorize an interdepartmental transfer from the General Fund Non-Departmental/City Manager's Fiscal Management Account in the amount of \$10,000 to the Police Department's Riverside Reward Program (Account No. 3100000-459026).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Adopt a resolution offering a reward in the amount of \$10,000 for information that leads to the identification and apprehension of the person or persons responsible for the murder of Linda Ferguson, Police Department case 190016283, for a duration of 60 days; and
2. Authorize an interdepartmental transfer from the General Fund Non-Departmental/City Manager's Fiscal Management Account (7211200-450247) in the amount of \$10,000 to the Police Department's Riverside Reward Program (Account No. 3100000-459026).

BACKGROUND:

On June 6, 2019, at approximately 3:45 a.m., a shooting took place at a residence located in the 3800 Block of Cedar Avenue. Riverside Police Department officers were called and responded to the location. The investigation revealed that one of the occupants of the residence witnessed and interrupted a vehicle burglary on the street outside his home. Just prior to the suspects fleeing the area in a vehicle, one of the subjects fired a single gunshot at the residence. The bullet entered the residence and struck Ms. Ferguson. She was critically injured and died moments later.

The surviving witness described the suspect vehicle (a white or off-white colored four-door sedan), and forensic evidence was collected in the area, but the investigation conducted so far has developed few leads. A press release was sent out on the morning of the incident and local media covered the story, but no one has called with information as of this writing.

Detectives believe that there may be witnesses or people with information related to this crime who have yet to come forward.

DISCUSSION:

In May of 2001, the "Riverside Reward Program," was approved by the City Council. Guidelines for offering rewards are listed in Section 364 of the Riverside Police Department Policy Manual.

Detectives believe that offering a significant reward in the amount of \$10,000 may entice one or more witnesses to come forward with information that would help detectives in the identification and apprehension of the person or persons involved in this murder.

The attached resolution approves the \$10,000 offer of reward that will expire 60 days after the date of City Council's approval.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact as a result of this request. Upon City Council approval, sufficient funds in the amount of \$10,000 will be transferred from the Non-Departmental/City Manager's Fiscal Management Account (7211200-450247) to the Police Department's Riverside Reward Program, Account No. 3100000-459026. If no reward is offered within 60 days of Council's approval, funds will be returned to the Non-Departmental/City Manager's Fiscal Management Account unless once more renewed or extended.

Prepared by: Sergio G. Diaz, Chief of Police
Certified as to
availability of funds: Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Approved by: Lea Deesing, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachment: Resolution