



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL **DATE: JANUARY 7, 2020**

FROM: POLICE DEPARTMENT **WARD: ALL**

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION OFFERING OF A REWARD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000 FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO THE IDENTIFICATION AND APPREHENSION OF PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MURDER OF SUSAN WAGNER – 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 Susan Wagner, Police Department case 190031802, 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.

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 Susan Wagner, Police Department case 190031802, for a duration of 60 days; and
2. Approve 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.

BACKGROUND:

On November 1, 2019, at approximately 11:30 p.m., Riverside Police Department officers were called to the end of Orion Street regarding an injured individual. Officers arrived and located Susan Wagner (60 years old) lying in the grassy area, suffering from head injuries consistent with an assault. Ms. Wagner was transported to the Riverside Community Hospital where she was evaluated and found to have multiple facial fractures and brain bleeding. As a result, Ms. Wagner was placed in a medically-induced coma in the hopes of relieving the pressure on her brain and allowing her to recover. Unfortunately, she did not respond when the medically induced coma was

reversed.

Ms. Wagner's condition deteriorated and on November 25, 2019, she succumbed to her injuries and passed away in the presence of her family.

A press release was distributed regarding the incident, but no viable information has been obtained as of this writing.

Orion Street is a cul-de-sac that ends at the southwest corner of Doty-Trust Park. Detectives believe that there may be witnesses or individuals 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:

Should the reward be awarded, the fiscal impact will be \$10,000. 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:	Larry V. Gonzalez, Interim 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. Guess, City Attorney

Attachment: Resolution