



San Bernardino County

Legislation Text

File #: 6683, Agenda Item #: 65

REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY AND RECORD OF ACTION

September 13, 2022

FROM

SHANNON D. DICUS, Sheriff/Coroner/Public Administrator

SUBJECT

Grant Application for the Office of National Drug Control Policy, 2023 High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. Approve and authorize the submission of a grant application to the Office of National Drug Control Policy in the amount of \$1,149,330 for federal assistance from the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas program for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024.
2. Authorize the Sheriff/Coroner/Public Administrator to execute and submit the grant application, related assurances and certifications necessary, on behalf of the County, as requested by the Office of National Drug Control Policy, subject to review by County Counsel.
3. Direct the Sheriff/Coroner/Public Administrator to transmit all documents in relation to this grant application to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors within 30 days of execution.

(Presenter: Kelly Welty, Chief Deputy Director, 387-0640)

COUNTY AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Provide for the Safety, Health and Social Service Needs of County Residents.

Pursue County Goals and Objectives by Working with Other Agencies and Stakeholders.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Approval of this item will not result in the use of additional Discretionary General Funding (Net County Cost). The application to the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) grant program, in the amount of \$1,149,330, will provide funding in the amount of \$664,274 for the Inland Regional Narcotics Enforcement Team (IRNET), \$385,056 for the Regional Methamphetamine Task Force (RMTF) and \$100,000 for the Vehicle Interdiction Pipeline Enforcement Resource Program (VIPER). If awarded, the Sheriff/Coroner/Public Administrator (Department) will return to the Board of Supervisors (Board) for acceptance of the grant award and may request budget adjustments, if necessary, as part of the Mid-Year Budget Report. No matching funds are required.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Department is seeking grant funds from the HIDTA program. HIDTA provides federal assistance to local law enforcement agencies operating in areas determined to be critical drug-trafficking regions of the United States. The purpose of the HIDTA program is to reduce drug trafficking and production by enhancing cooperation and facilitating intelligence sharing among law enforcement agencies; and supporting coordinated law enforcement strategies that make the most of available resources. The HIDTA program funds 670

initiatives throughout the country, including:

- Enforcement initiatives comprising multi-agency investigative, interdiction, and prosecution activities;
- Intelligence and information-sharing initiatives;
- Support for programs that provide assistance beyond the core enforcement and intelligence and information-sharing initiatives; and
- Drug use prevention and drug treatment initiatives.

Since 1997, the County has received HIDTA grant funds from the ONDCP for IRNET and RMTF initiatives, and more recently, for the VIPER initiative. IRNET is a joint effort between the Department, as the lead agency, and other member agencies designed to target, investigate and prosecute major drug trafficking organizations. RMTF is a joint effort between San Bernardino and Riverside counties to target major methamphetamine production/distribution and arrest persons/organizations involved in illicit sales and trafficking of methamphetamine. VIPER is a joint effort between the Sheriff's Departments of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, and Riverside counties to target drug trafficking on the highway.

The total allocation for IRNET of \$664,274 will fund the salaries and benefits of existing positions, overtime costs, supplies, service contracts, and other program-related expenses of the Department. Additionally, the grant will provide overtime reimbursement to the California Department of Alcohol and Beverage Control, Montclair Police Department, Ontario Police Department, Redlands Police Department, Rialto Police Department, San Bernardino Police Department and Riverside County Sheriff's Department. The \$385,056 allocated for RMTF will fund the Department's overtime and partial salary without benefits, travel, supplies, service contracts, and other operating expenses of this program. The \$100,000 allocated for VIPER will fund the Department's overtime, supplies, service contracts, and other operating expenses related to this program.

The HIDTA grant application requires the approval of certifications that are binding upon the County, as well as an up-front agreement to be bound by the conditions that will accompany the federal grant funds. Consequently, County Policy 05-13 requires Board approval to submit this grant application or any related amendments. The funding will cover the project performance period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024.

Approval of Recommendation No. 2 will authorize the Sheriff/Coroner/Public Administrator to sign the grant application and related assurances in compliance with ONDCP's policy. If the County's application is approved, the Department will return to the Board to accept the grant award.

PROCUREMENT

Not applicable.

REVIEW BY OTHERS

This item has been reviewed by County Counsel (Richard D. Luczak, Deputy County Counsel, 387-5455) on August 22, 2022; Finance (Carolina Mendoza, Administrative Analyst, 387-0294) on August 25, 2022; and County Finance and Administration (Robert Saldana, Deputy Executive Officer, 387-5423) on August 26, 2022.