



TO: John McDonough, City Manager

FROM: Eden Freeman, Assistant City Manager

DATE: June 17, 2013 for submission on the Agenda of the June 18, 2013 City Council Meeting

ITEM: Consideration of Approval of Application for Allocation under FY2013 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Grant Program.

Background

The Byrne JAG Grant Program provides funding to support all components of the criminal justice system, ranging from multijurisdictional task forces to crime prevention and domestic violence programs, courts, corrections, treatment, and justice information sharing initiatives. Awards are available both directly from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) (if the applicant is eligible to receive more than \$10,000) or through the State Administrative Agency (SAA) appointed by the Governor.

The FY13 award marks the third direct award to the City from BJA. Allocation amounts are determined by a formula based equally on the population and part one crime statistics within a jurisdiction. For FY13, the City's total allocated award is \$15,384.

The solicitation requires that the application be made available for review by the applicant's governing body (City Council) no less than 30 days before the submission of the application and that the public have an opportunity to comment on the proposed use of the funds. Funds can only be used to directly benefit the jurisdiction in which the applicant is based.

Discussion

For the FY2013 Byrne JAG Local Allocation, the City proposes to utilize our allocation (\$15,384) to purchase and install an X-ray machine. This proposed use of our FY2013 Byrne JAG allocation is in direct support of the Bureau of Justice Assistance's stated program areas of "law enforcement programs" and "prosecution and court programs."

*City
Manager*

Alternatives

Council could choose not to authorize the submission of this application. However, if this is the outcome, the City will forfeit the direct allocation of funds and perhaps endanger any future awards under this program.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval and submission of the application.

Attachment

1. Application

**Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program
FY2013 Local Solicitation**

City of Sandy Springs, Georgia
Improved Courtroom Security

Abstract

With all of the successes experienced by Sandy Springs since incorporation, there remain areas of need for equipment to protect and security the City's courtroom. For the FY2013 Byrne JAG Local Allocation, the City proposes to utilize its allocation (\$15,384) to purchase the RAPISCAN 620XR x-ray machine for the Sandy Springs Municipal Court. The x-ray machine will enhance the Court's security capabilities, thereby improving the safety of patrons and staff. This proposed use of its FY2013 Byrne JAG allocation is in direct support of BJA's stated program areas of "law enforcement programs" and "prosecution and court programs."

The purpose of this project is to improve courtroom security, and improve the safety of courtroom patrons and staff. The purchased x-ray machine will be integrated into the City's current courtroom security operations, which are under the supervision of the Chief of Police. Officers will be trained to operate the machine properly.

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program FY2012 Local Solicitation

City of Sandy Springs, Georgia *Improved Courtroom Security*

Program Narrative

The City of Sandy Springs is one of the newest cities in the State of Georgia and operates in a Council – Manager form of government. Incorporated December 1, 2005, the City has made dramatic strides in providing effective and efficient services to residents.

Sandy Springs is a demographically diverse community and covers a 38 square mile area in north Fulton County, Georgia. Sandy Springs is the second largest city in the metropolitan Atlanta area and is the sixth largest city in the State of Georgia. In 2010, the City's population was 65% White, 20% Black and 14.2% Hispanic. The City is home to more than 40% of the available hospital beds in the metropolitan Atlanta area and is proud to be the home of Northside Hospital, Saint Joseph's Hospital and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. While the City's residential population is 99,419¹, the daytime population swells to more than 200,000, due to the concentration of major corporations and businesses. Sandy Springs is home to many outstanding businesses, including corporate giants such as First Data, AirWatch, Newell Rubbermaid, UPS, Cox Enterprises, ING North America and Spectrum Brands.

Sandy Springs has accomplished much since incorporation, including the startup of the Sandy Springs Municipal Court. The Municipal Court conducts arraignments for all defendants charged with applicable traffic and criminal misdemeanors in the City of Sandy Springs. Municipal Court judges hold bench trials for those defendants who have plead "not guilty." Additionally, the Court adjudicates all alleged violations of Sandy Springs environmental, building and development codes. It is estimated that nearly 20,000 persons visit the courtroom throughout the year. The courtroom serves a dual purpose, doubling as the City Council chamber, which is also used for public meetings. The City anticipates that nearly 35,000 persons enter the courtroom during the year.

For the FY2013 Byrne JAG Local Allocation, the City proposes to utilize its allocation (\$15,384) to purchase an x-ray machine for use at the entrance to the Sandy Springs Municipal Court. The x-ray machine will enhance the Court's security capabilities, thereby improving the safety of patrons and staff.

Upon entering the courtroom, visitors are currently required to walk through a metal detector that is operated by assigned police officers. Officers are also equipped with metal detection wands to be used when determined necessary. The City recognizes that these current efforts are compliant with the bare minimum standards of courtroom

¹ Census 2012 estimates.

security, consistently cited throughout professional literature. However, we would like to provide enhanced security for the courtroom. In June 2012, the Georgia Council of Superior Court Judges and the Georgia Sheriff's Association published the "Georgia Standards for Security of Courthouses and Other Court Facilities." The publication proposed that superior courts adopt a series of standards to ensure efficient courtroom security. Although compliance to the standards is voluntary, and primarily directed to support Superior Courts throughout the State, its provisions can be adopted by courts at any jurisdictional level, including municipal courts. In the publication, Standard 8.09 regarding Equipment Used at Checkpoints, advises that courts at an absolute minimum utilize magnetometers (wands or fixed, walkthrough structures); the visual inspection of hand bags, purses, brief cases or any other types of items brought into the courthouse; and x-ray machines. By purchasing an x-ray machine for the Municipal Court, Sandy Springs will exceed these minimum standards.

The purpose of this project is to improve courthouse security, and improve the safety of courthouse patrons and staff. The purchased x-ray machine will be integrated into the City's current courtroom security operations, which are under the supervision of the Chief of Police. Officers will be trained to operate the machine properly.

If approved, the City of Sandy Springs proposes to purchase and install the RAPISCAN 620XR, sold by Rapiscan Systems in the first year of this grant award. The total cost of the equipment is approximately \$29,925.87. This cost has not been budgeted for the upcoming fiscal year. As such, the City intends to cover costs above the BJA allocation of \$15,384 with \$14,541.87 through City funds. Sandy Springs is not located in a disparate jurisdiction; therefore, coordination with other local governments in the submission of this application is not required.

**Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program
FY2013 Local Solicitation**

City of Sandy Springs, Georgia
Improved Courtroom Security

Budget and Budget Narrative

Category and Description	Amount
Personnel No funds are requested in this category.	\$ 0
Fringe Benefits No funds are requested in this category.	\$ 0
Travel No funds are requested in this category.	\$ 0
Equipment For the FY2013 Byrne JAG Local Allocation, the City proposes to utilize its allocation (\$15,384) to purchase an x-ray machine for the Sandy Springs Municipal Court. The x-ray machine will enhance the Court's security capabilities, thereby improving the safety of patrons and staff. This amount is an estimate only and the final cost may be higher. Expenses beyond the BJA award allocation would be covered from City funds.	\$ 29,925.87
Supplies No funds are requested in this category.	\$ 0
Consultants/Contracts No funds are requested in this category.	\$ 0
Other No funds are requested in this category.	\$ 0
Total	\$ 29,925.87

For the FY2013 Byrne JAG Local Allocation, the City proposes to utilize its allocation (\$15,384) to purchase and install a state-of-the-art x-ray machine in the City's municipal court. This proposed use of its FY2013 Byrne JAG allocation is in direct support of BJA's stated priority of improved courtroom security.

The purpose of this project is to improve courtroom security for patrons and staff of the Sandy Springs Municipal Court.

The City is requesting no administrative funds. It is anticipated the bids for the purchase of this equipment will be above the amount awarded. As such, the City will cover any cost difference through the use of forfeiture funds. As this project has not been funded in the City budget, City funds will not be supplanted to support this project.

**Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program
FY2013 Local Solicitation**

City of Sandy Springs, Georgia
Improved Courtroom Security

Review Narrative

The City of Sandy Springs made this application available for review by the governing body, the Mayor and City Council, and the general public on Monday, June 17, 2013. The application is posted on the City's website at www.sandyspringsga.gov. A public hearing on this application will be held at the Council's regular Council meeting on Tuesday, June 18, 2013 at 6:00 PM. A certified copy of the meeting minutes, including public comment is attached under "Additional Attachments" to this application. The section relevant to the Byrne JAG Public Hearing and Review by the Governing Body begins on page _____ of the minutes.