

Item Title: Accept and Appropriate USDOJ Grant Funds for the Wake County Sheriff's Office

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners accepts and appropriates \$878,000 of the FY2024 Invited to Apply – Byrne Discretionary Community Project Grants/Byrne Discretionary Grants Program federal grant funds into the Wake County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) Grants and Donations Fund for the purchase of Body-Worn Cameras, In-Car Cameras, and Radars.

Item Summary:

Purpose: In accordance with the North Carolina Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act, the Board of Commissioners must approve all amendments that increase the budget for a fund.

Background: WCSO will purchase 100 Body Worn Cameras, 30 In-Car Cameras, and 60 Radars, associated equipment/supplies, trained vendor setup, and additional storage for our Detention and Patrol Divisions. These devices will assist in improving Detention Officers and Patrol deputies with their duties and provide additional accountability and transparency that our community deserves.

In 2020, WCSO implemented a body worn camera program for deputies. With these grant funds, the program can now expand into two Detention facilities. WCSO will purchase body-worn cameras for the Detention Division so all detention officers will have equipment to enhance security and transparency in our detention centers. WCSO is currently staffed with 343 detention officers, with an average daily population of more than 1,400 detainees in our Public Safety Center (PSC) and Wake County Detention Center (WCDC).

WCSO regularly purchases in-car cameras and radars. According to the replacement policy due to damage and/or end-of-life cycle, several in-car cameras and radars are due for replacement.

In-car cameras and radars provide surveillance and additional safety measures for officers. These in-car cameras will be used for those deputies on patrol who need an in-car camera according to policy, as well as for in-car cameras that need to be replaced due to damage and/or end-of-life cycle.

WCSO aims to have all cameras, radars, and associated electronic devices to work on the same system without having any issues that could become a future service problem for our existing system. The total cost for this program will include body worn cameras, in-car, radars, associated supplies and/or equipment, licensing and

warranties, vendor training services, included but not limited to, data storage that pertain to a successful implementation and installation of these devices.

Strategic Plan: This action supports routine County operations and procedures.

Fiscal Impact: The grant will provide additional federal funds of \$878,000 to be appropriated in the Grants and Donations Fund used to purchase body worn cameras, in-car cameras, radars, associated equipment/supplies, a trained vendor setup, and additional storage for WCSO Detention and Patrol Divisions. There are no matching funds required for this grant.

Additional Information:

The use of these devices will build better transparent relationships between our detention centers and community, emphasize the importance of promoting equality for all people, and promote safer communities with an increased level of accountability, protection, and security.

These body worn and in-car cameras will provide surveillance and additional safety measures for: 1) detention officers for detainees for our receiving, transfer, and housing areas, and 2) those deputies on patrol who need an in-car camera according to policy or for an in-car camera that needs to be replaced. The goal is to use radars to assist in reducing the number of traffic related fatalities in Wake County, which will contribute to lowering the overall number of traffic related fatalities in North Carolina.

Officers need to have updated equipment to function fully in their current roles to be able to successfully complete all their duties effectively and efficiently. They will help to save the lives of the citizens and visitors that travel throughout Wake County.

Attachments:

1. Grant Award/Resolution
2. Grants and Donations Budget Memo