

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

February 4, 2020

City Council

STAFF

Perrie McMillen, Mediation/Restorative Justice Supervisor
Bronwyn Scurlock, Legal

SUBJECT

First Reading of Ordinance No. 021, 2020, Making Appropriations and Authorizing Transfers of Appropriations for the Restorative Justice Services Program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this item is to appropriate grant revenue to fund Restorative Justice Services within Community Development and Neighborhood Services (CDNS). A grant in the amount of \$33,803 has been awarded from the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) Juvenile Diversion fund for the continued operation of Restorative Justice Services, which includes the RESTORE program for shoplifting offenses, the Restorative Justice Conferencing Program (RJCP) and the Reflect Program for all other offenses. This amount is the remainder of the total 2019-2020 amount of \$67,612. The first portion, \$33,809, was appropriated through the 2019 Annual Adjustment Ordinance. This second portion covers expenses incurred January 1, 2020-June 30, 2020. The total grant amount is being appropriated in two separate Ordinances due to changes in state law, which affected the state grant award process. State partners were only able to guarantee half the grants funds in 2019, and then later guaranteed the second half of the funds.

The required local match is \$22,537, which is 25% of the total funding. This will be met by appropriating \$5,370 in cash match funds from the CDNS operating budget previously designated for Restorative Justice Services. No cash match funds for this grant were appropriated in 2019, so this cash match appropriation meets the requirement. The rest of the match is in-kind, designated from the City in the form of office space for grant funded services; \$8,584 in office space was met in 2019, and the remaining \$8,584 in office space will be met in 2020. The grant period is July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020. This is the third year in a 3-year cycle for the Juvenile Diversion grant.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Ordinance on First Reading.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

Restorative Justice Services and its three programs, RESTORE for shoplifting offenses, RJCP (Restorative Justice Conferencing Program) and Reflect Program for all other offenses, has been partially grant funded since its inception in 2000. The Council accepts, on an annual basis, grant funds from Colorado Division of Criminal Justice to support its Restorative Justice Services program. This grant helps fund youth referred to the program from the 8th Judicial District Attorney's Office. Since it began, Restorative Justice Services has provided a restorative justice alternative to more than 3,000 young people who committed chargeable offenses in our community.

Restorative Justice is an alternative method of holding a young offender accountable by facilitating a meeting with the offender, the victim/victim representative, and members of the community to determine the harm done by the crime, and how to repair the harm. By identifying and repairing the harm caused by the crime, Criminal

Justice Officials are optimistic that repeat offenses by these youth will be reduced, and the needs and concerns of the victims and affected community will be addressed.

The programs help young people understand how family, friends, victims, and community are harmed by their actions and hold them accountable. The intention is that these young people will make better future decisions and not commit the same or similar crimes. Reducing future criminal behavior and keeping young people out of the justice system both contribute positively to a safer and healthier community. Addressing the needs and concerns of crime victims and community members also has a positive effect on the overall health and safety of the community. Youth and families are referred to appropriate community resources based on needs identified during program participation.

Without grant funding and the support of the City, Restorative Justice Services would not be a service available to young people and their families, crime victims, the courts, law enforcement, and the community.

CITY FINANCIAL IMPACTS

The additional grant funds in the amount of \$33,803 from DCJ, Juvenile Diversion Grants, provides funding for the continuation of Restorative Justice Services. The match requirement will be met by appropriating \$5,370 from the CDNS operating budget, previously designated for Restorative Justice Services. The rest of the match is in-kind; \$17,168 (on an annual basis) is designated from the City in the form of office space provided for grant funded services.

ORDINANCE NO. 021, 2020
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS
MAKING APPROPRIATIONS AND AUTHORIZING TRANSFERS OF
APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SERVICES PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice (“DCJ”) Juvenile Diversion fund has awarded the City a grant in the amount of \$33,803 for the continued operation of Restorative Justice Services; and

WHEREAS, Restorative Justice Services includes the RESTORE program for shoplifting offenses, and the Restorative Justice Conferencing Program and Reflect Program for all other offenses; and

WHEREAS, DCJ requires a local match of \$22,537, which will be met by appropriating \$5,370 in cash match funds from the Community Development and Neighborhood Services’ operating budget; and

WHEREAS, the remainder of the match is in-kind in the amount of \$17,168, and designated by the City in the form of office space for grant funded services; and

WHEREAS, the appropriation benefits public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Fort Collins and serves the public purpose of continuing Restorative Justice Services within Community and Neighborhood Services; and

WHEREAS, Article V, Section 9, of the City Charter permits the City Council to make supplemental appropriations by ordinance at any time during the fiscal year, provided that the total amount of such supplemental appropriations, in combination with all previous appropriations for that fiscal year, does not exceed the current estimate of actual and anticipated revenues to be received during the fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager has recommended the appropriation described herein and determined that this appropriation is available and previously unappropriated from the General Fund and will not cause the total amount appropriated in the General Fund to exceed the current estimate of actual and anticipated revenues to be received in that fund during any fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, Article V, Section 10, of the City Charter authorizes the City Council to transfer by ordinance any unexpended and unencumbered appropriated amount or portion thereof from one fund or capital project to another fund or capital project, provided that the purpose for which the transferred funds are to be expended remains unchanged; the purpose for which the funds were initially appropriated no longer exists; or the proposed transfer is from a fund or capital project in which the amount appropriated exceeds the amount needed to accomplish the purpose specified in the appropriation ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS as follows:

Section 1. That the City Council hereby makes and adopts the determinations and findings contained in the recitals set forth above.

Section 2. That there is hereby appropriated from unanticipated grant revenue in the General Fund the sum of THIRTY-THREE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED THREE DOLLARS (\$33,803) for expenditure in the General Fund, Restorative Justice Services grant project, for the Restorative Justice Services program and appropriated therein.

Section 3. That the unexpended appropriated amount of FIVE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY DOLLARS (\$5,370) is hereby authorized for transfer from the Neighborhood Services operating budget in the General Fund to the grant project for the Restorative Justice Services program and appropriated therein.

Introduced, considered favorably on first reading, and ordered published this 4th day of February, A.D. 2020, and to be presented for final passage on the 18th day of February, A.D. 2020.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Passed and adopted on final reading on the 18th day of February, A.D. 2020.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk