

STAFF REPORT
City of Lancaster

CC 10
8/14/12
MVB

Date: August 14, 2012

To: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

From: Brenda Gamlowski, Management Analyst II

Subject: **Grant Appropriation for the 2012 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)**

Recommendation:

Approve appropriations for the 2012 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) in the amount of \$78,392.00 to Expense Account No. 399-4820-304 and Revenue Account No. 399-3308-200.

Fiscal Impact:

None. The appropriation is funded by the Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance.

Summary:

The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG) will allow states and local governments to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime and to improve the criminal justice system. The JAG purpose areas are:

- Law Enforcement programs
- Prosecution and court programs
- Prevention and education programs
- Corrections and community corrections programs
- Drug treatment programs
- Planning, evaluation and technology improvement programs.

The JAG funds can be used in any of the six purposed areas to pay for personnel, programs and equipment. The City will utilize the JAG funds for a Community Support and Good Citizenship Program (CSGCP). Through a partnership with Paving the Way, this program continues and expands upon the efforts begun under the Weed and Seed program. Participants in the program will include those in need such as parolees, at-risk-youth risk, court assigned community service workers, victims of crimes, and homeless

individuals. They will receive support and learn the necessary skills to be good citizens in Lancaster.

Paving the Way in coordination with the City will partner with local businesses, other community based organizations, governmental agencies and individuals to provide the services necessary for a successful program. Participants will:

- Receive counseling to provide mental and emotional support
- Attend courses and workshops to gain life skills, parenting skills, job-skills, etc.
- Get on-the-job training in various trades including automotive repair, automotive dent repair and painting, air conditioning and heating, solar installation and repair, pet grooming, etc. while receiving appropriate wages from the businesses for their work
- Learn respect for themselves, their neighbors and their community by performing community service through projects like graffiti removal, trash pickup, painting and cleanup of properties and buildings throughout the City.

The participating businesses will gain inexpensive labor in return for their willingness to provide on-the-job training. They will also receive advertising and recognition for participation and service to the Community in the CSGCP.

In addition to the services above, the City and Paving the Way will continue to work with appropriate agencies and community based organizations to fill gaps in providing services for the homeless, victims of crimes, parolees, at-risk youth, etc.

The CSGCP is designed to help reduce crime in the community, prevent recidivism, improve quality of life in troubled neighborhoods and assist victims of crimes by actively targeting gang-related and drug-related crimes, encourage good citizenship by providing resources for the homeless, elderly and disabled persons, as well as parolees, recovering alcoholics, youth, families, at-risk individuals within the community, victims of sexual assault and other violent crimes and sustain the positive effects of the program long-term.