

**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM**  
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

<b>AGENDA TITLE:</b>	Approval of the Grant Agreement Between the United States Department of Justice and the City of Shoreline for the Risk Awareness, De-escalation, and Referral (RADAR) Program and Approval for the City Manager to Enter into Agreements to Implement the Program
<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	Administrative Services Department
<b>PRESENTED BY:</b>	Bethany Wolbrecht-Dunn, Grants Coordinator
<b>ACTION:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing

**PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:**

In January 2015, the United States Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) issued a call for projects under their Smart Policing Initiative. The Fiscal Year 2015 (FY15) Smart Policing Initiative (SPI) sought programs that would build upon analysis driven, evidence-based policing by encouraging law enforcement agencies to develop effective, economical, and innovative responses to crime. The DOJ estimated that they would make up to six awards for up to \$700,000 each for an estimated \$4.2 million in projects funded through this initiative. The 36-month project award period would begin on October 1, 2015.

Shoreline collaborated with the King County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) and potential research partners from George Mason University and the Police Foundation to develop a competitive application for the Risk Awareness, De-escalation, and Referral (RADAR) program. The proposed project calls for Shoreline Police to engage with the community to more effectively respond to crises involving individuals with mental health issues or cognitive/intellectual deficits. Additionally, a major component of this project is the rigorous process of evaluating the effectiveness of the RADAR approach.

The DOJ received over 100 applications for SPI funding, however, only seven were ultimately selected. The City of Shoreline was awarded \$631,380 to implement and evaluate the RADAR program over three years.

Council approval is required to enter into the agreement with the DOJ for the implementation of the program. Approval is also required for the contracts with George Mason University and the Police Foundation who will provide the data collection, analysis and evaluation of the program, as required by the DOJ.

**RESOURCE/FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

The Smart Policing FY15 grant award for the RADAR program is \$631,380 over three federal fiscal years (beginning October 1, 2015). Expenditures categories are budgeted as follows:

Extra help personnel and travel expenses	\$131,409
Equipment and supplies	\$ 34,819
IT/Database related	\$111,468
Professional services	<u>\$353,684</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$631,380</b>

The funds will be added to the 2015 City Budget as part of the budget amendment being brought forth at Council’s November 9, 2015 meeting.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that Council move to approve the grant agreement between the United States Department of Justice and the City for the Risk Awareness, De-escalation, and Referral (RADAR) program and authorize the City Manager to enter into agreements to implement the program.

Approved By:           City Manager **DT**   City Attorney **MK**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The City of Shoreline has been awarded a United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance Smart Policing Initiative grant in the amount of \$631,380 for the Risk Awareness, De-escalation, and Referral (RADAR) program. Council approval is required for the grant agreement, as well as for the contracts to be awarded to evaluate the effectiveness of the program.

## **BACKGROUND**

In January of 2015, the United States Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) issued a call for projects under their Smart Policing Initiative (SPI). The FY15 SPI sought programs that would build upon analysis driven, evidence-based policing by encouraging law enforcement agencies to develop effective, economical, and innovative responses to crime. The BJA requires applicants to engage a research partner in order to collect and analyze data to evaluate program success.

The goal of the SPI is to identify the development of programs and strategies that are effective, efficient and economical ways to reduce crime, ensure higher case closure rates, and increase agency efficiency and improve community collaboration and relations. Since 2009, the BJA has awarded 39 SPI grants to law enforcement agencies; types of jurisdiction and project emphasis have varied greatly. For example, in Glendale, Arizona, they studied place-based crime prevention via environmental design tactics that resulted in reduced thefts and calls for service at high traffic convenience stores. In Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, they found that offender-based programs centered on violent crime micro-spots resulted in statistically significant reductions in crime while foot patrols did not.

The City of Shoreline, the KCSO and our potential research partners strongly felt that the RADAR program would be a good candidate for SPI funding. When the idea of the RADAR program was in its infancy, the KCSO provided the program with a small seed grant to assess the feasibility of the program. Staff conducted site visits to discuss the approach and found strong support for the potential program and a considerable demand within the Shoreline community for a better response to individuals in crisis.

The purpose of the SPI project is to develop and test the RADAR approach, which is an innovative de-escalation strategy and information sharing system designed to more effectively respond to crises involving individuals with mental health issues or cognitive/intellectual deficiencies. Further, the overall goal of the RADAR program is to enhance community and first responder safety through relationship-based policing, community care-taking and procedural justice.

The RADAR program design is as follows:

1. Identify, assess, and establish cooperative relationships with individuals at risk of violence due to mental health issues, cognitive deficits, or substance abuse.
2. Engage in a cooperative alliance with these individuals and the “circle of support” (family members and friends).

3. Establish safety protocols, de-escalation techniques, and voluntary strategies to remove weapons prior to crisis events.
4. Share accurate and update de-escalation information with first responders to ensure a safe and consistent response.
5. Evaluate the effectiveness of RADAR using a rigorous program evaluation process.

With Council approval, the City will contract with George Mason University and the Police Foundation to conduct the program evaluation portion of the project. Both have been engaged as research partners on BJA funded initiatives in Seattle and Brooklyn Park, MN. They will collaborate with Shoreline and KCSO staff in all aspects of the project design, implementation, data collection and evaluation.

The program application has wide community support and received letters of support from the KCSO, Islanders for Collaborative Policing, National Alliance on Mental Illness/Eastside, the Shoreline Fire Department, and the City of Seattle/Office of the City Auditor.

### **ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS**

The Council has the following options in regards to the FY15 Smart Policing Initiative Award from the United States Department of Justice:

- Approve the agreement for funding and research contracts.
- Do not implement the RADAR program and decline the funding award.

### **COUNCIL GOAL ADDRESSED**

Implementing the RADAR program is in line with the 2015-2017 City Council Goal 5; Promote and enhance the City's safe community and neighborhood initiatives and programs.

### **RESOURCE/FINANCIAL IMPACT**

The Smart Policing FY15 grant award for the RADAR program is \$631,380 over three federal fiscal years (beginning October 1, 2015). Expenditures categories are budgeted as follows:

Extra help personnel and travel expenses	\$131,409
Equipment and supplies	\$ 34,819
IT/Database related	\$111,468
Professional services	<u>\$353,684</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$631,380</u></b>

The funds will be added to the 2015 City Budget as part of the budget amendment being brought forth at the Council's November 9, 2015, meeting.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that Council move to approve the grant agreement between the United States Department of Justice and the City for the Risk Awareness, De-escalation, and Referral (RADAR) program and authorize the City Manager to enter into agreements to implement the program.