

**THE UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY
COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM**

SUBJECT: FY24 Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) from the Office of Senator Jon Ossoff (D-GA) for Real Time Crime Center (RTCC), Crime Analysts, and Event Public Safety Equipment

DATE: April 28, 2023

BUDGET INFORMATION:

REVENUES: \$673,000

EXPENSES:

ANNUAL:

CAPITAL:

OTHER: \$673,000

FUNDING SOURCE: U.S. Congressional Appropriation(s) / FY24 Review Cycle

COMMISSION ACTION REQUESTED ON: June 6, 2023

PURPOSE:

To request that the Mayor and Commission:

- a. Approve the submission of a CDS application by the Athens-Clarke County Police Department (ACCPD) to acquire Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) software, crime analysts, and event public safety equipment, for a total project acquisition cost of \$673,000;
- b. Accept the allocated funds, if awarded;
- c. Authorize the creation of up to 2 crime analyst positions, consistent with the grant award;
- d. Adopt the attached budget amendment ordinance (**Attachment #1**); and
- e. Authorize the Mayor and appropriate staff to execute all documents associated with the allocated funds.

HISTORY:

1. On May 3, 2022, the Mayor and Commission approved the ACCPD to apply for, and if awarded grant funding, to accept funds from Senator Ossoff's FY23 Congressionally Directed Spending. Such projects entailed All-Electric Vehicles and Charging Stations for ACCPD Personnel, and an Investigator for LGBTQ+ and Elder Crimes.
2. Circa February 16, 2023, ACCPD became aware of a request for FY24 Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) projects. Applicable projects were to be high-impact projects that

can be jumpstarted or reach completion with the assistance of the Federal Government. All requests were to be submitted through Senator Ossoff's website by March 7, 2023.

3. On February 24, 2023, ACCPD staff were able to discuss the projects with Senator Ossoff's Office staff to assess relative interest.
4. On March 7, 2023, Senator Ossoff's Office received an application from the ACCPD. Submission of the application did not bind ACCGov to accept funds, if awarded.

FACTS & ISSUES:

1. Consistent with Mayor & Commission direction, the ACCPD seeks to support the safe movement of people around Athens, foster a safer Athens by reducing and preventing crime, and enhance organizational capacities.
2. An RTCC proves an investigative tool to allow for the efficient and effective allocation of law enforcement resources through timely analysis of established law enforcement data sets. RTCC is an established, data-driven practice in agencies to address nascent and sustained resource needs in dynamic operational environments.
3. Critically, the requested software capacity and personnel would allow for enhanced real time information sharing with officers and detectives in the field, increased officer situational awareness, bolster investigative foundations, and potentially lead to improved outcomes.
4. The additional requested equipment (traffic control barriers and traffic cones) would allow ACCPD to better facilitate large events in Athens that historically have drawn tens of thousands to our region. ACCPD partners with agencies in the region for events like University of Georgia football games, half marathons, bicycle races, and other large-scale events. The additional equipment would aid not only ACCPD's efforts, but also those of the partnering agencies when they work these events. The equipment could greatly improve the traffic direction and safety of visitors within the region.
5. The ACCPD proposes the use of funding for:

○ Crime Analysts	\$181,200
○ RTCC Software and Related Expenses	\$300,000
○ Traffic control barriers	\$180,000
○ Traffic cones	\$11,800
6. If awarded, funds would be accepted and administered as with any other traditional grant funds over the course of twelve months.
7. These recommendations support the following ACCGov Strategic Plan Goal & Strategy:
 - Good Neighbors Goal, Strategy C: *Decrease crime and keep residents safe through "community-centric" services.*

OPTIONS:

1. Mayor and Commission:
 - a. Approve the submission of a CDS application by the Athens-Clarke County Police Department (ACCPD) to acquire Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) software and equipment, crime analysts, and public safety equipment for large events, for a total project acquisition cost of \$673,000;
 - b. Accept the allocated funds, if awarded;
 - c. Authorize the creation of up to 2 crime analyst positions, consistent with the grant award;
 - d. Adopt the attached budget amendment ordinance (**Attachment #1**); and
 - e. Authorize the Mayor and appropriate staff to execute all documents associated with the allocated funds.

2. Mayor and Commission deny acceptance of grant funds, if awarded.

3. Mayor and Commission defined option.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option #1 a, b, c, d and e

DEPARTMENT:

Prepared by: Michael Duckett



Jerry G. Saulters

5/4/2023

Date:

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS:

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION: Option #1 a, b, c, d, and e

Manager

May 10, 2023

Date:

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment #1: Budget Ordinance

Attachment #1

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE FY2023 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET FOR ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY, GEORGIA SO AS TO PROVIDE GRANT FUNDING, IF AWARDED, FROM CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING FOR EXPENSES RELATED TO REAL TIME CRIME CENTER (RTTC) SOFTWARE, CRIME ANALYSTS, AND EVENT PUBLIC SAFETY EQUIPMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Commission of Athens-Clarke County, Georgia hereby ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. The Commission of Athens-Clarke County, Georgia desires to amend the Grants Special Revenue Fund to provide grant funding, if awarded, from Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) for expenses related to acquisition of Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) software, Crime Analysts, and event public safety equipment; and for other purposes.

Said Operating budget is hereby amended as follows:

Grants Special Revenue Fund:

REVENUES:

Increase:

Federal Grants up to \$673,000

EXPENDITURES:

Increase:

Police Department:

Personal Services up to \$181,200

Capital Expenses up to \$491,800

SECTION 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.