



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: July 19, 2016
Item Number: E-6
To: Honorable Mayor & City Council
From: Sandra R. Spagnoli, Chief of Police
Subject: **RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR AND ACCEPTANCE OF A REAL ESTATE FRAUD PROSECUTION GRANT FROM THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES UNDER THE FISCAL YEAR 2016-17 REAL ESTATE FRAUD PROSECUTION GRANT PROGRAM; AND**
APPROPRIATION OF \$6,151.35 TO FUND REAL ESTATE FRAUD INVESTIGATIONS UNDER THE FY 2016-17 REAL ESTATE FRAUD PROSECUTION GRANT PROGRAM

Attachments: 1. Resolution

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that City Council accept the FY 2016-17 Real Estate Fraud Prosecution grant. Staff also recommends that the City Council move to appropriate \$6,151.35 to fund expenses associated with the Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Grant as follows:

FROM	TO
\$6,151.35 Law Enforcement Grants Fund Unrestricted Fund Balance 19-30000	\$3,000.00 1902105C003 – 713000 Overtime \$3,151.35 1902105C003 – 731700 Training

INTRODUCTION

In 1996, the California Legislature enacted a law which provided grant funds to local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies to enhance the deterrence, investigation, and prosecution of real estate fraud cases at the local level. In Los Angeles County, these programs are funded by the filing fee imposed for recording real estate documents as required by Government Code Section 27388. The County's Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Trust Fund Committee is responsible for establishing procedures, evaluating applications, and approving applications submitted by law enforcement agencies. After deducting all administrative costs, a portion of the funds are awarded to local law enforcement agencies and the District Attorney's Office.

Funds awarded under this grant may only be used for personnel, equipment, or services used in the criminal investigations or prosecutions involving recorded real estate documents. Although a proposed budget is required as part of the application process, funds are reimbursed only for actual expenditures. Unused grant funds revert back to the Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Trust Fund Committee to be redistributed in upcoming years. The Real Estate Fraud Program is designed and organized to protect property owners against real estate fraud.

DISCUSSION

Grant funds awarded to the City will be used to support investigative operations within the Police Department's Detective Bureau-Financial Crimes Detail as they investigate real estate fraud related crimes. This particular type of crime is complex in nature as it involves researching County records, California Secretary of State Records, and Department of Real Estate records to develop prosecutable criminal cases. As such, a tremendous number of staff hours are expended to properly investigate these types of crimes. Securing the Real Estate Fraud grant strengthens and increases the Police Department's ability to conduct thorough investigations.

FISCAL IMPACT

The City has received a \$6,151.35 grant award from the County of Los Angeles. Grant funds will be used for overtime, travel, and training expenditures associated with the investigation of real estate fraud crimes. The City will be reimbursed by the County of Los Angeles' Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Trust Fund for authorized grant expenditures.



Don Rhoads, Director
Finance Approval



Sandra R. Spagnoli, Chief of Police
Police Approval

Attachment 1

RESOLUTION NO. 16-R-

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR AND ACCEPTANCE OF A REAL ESTATE FRAUD PROSECUTION GRANT FROM THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES UNDER THE FISCAL YEAR 2016-17 REAL ESTATE FRAUD PROSECUTION GRANT PROGRAM

The Council of the City of Beverly Hills does hereby resolve as follows:

Section 1. The County of Los Angeles administers the Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Grant program ("Grant Program"). A Real Estate Fraud Prosecution grant ("Grant") must be used to fund real estate fraud investigations and prosecutions.

Section 2. The City hereby appoints the City Manager or the Chief of Police as the agents of the City of Beverly Hills to apply for and accept a Grant from the County of Los Angeles' Grant Program and to execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to, applications, agreements, amendments, and payment requests, which may be necessary for administration of the Grant.

Section 3. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of the Resolution and shall cause the Resolution and this certification to be entered in the Book of Resolutions of the Council of the City.

Adopted:

JOHN A. MIRISCH
Mayor of the City of Beverly Hills

ATTEST:

_____(SEAL)
BYRON POPE
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

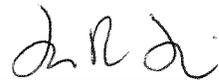

LAURENCE S. WIENER
City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

MAHDI ALUZRI
City Manager



DON RHOADS
Director of Administrative Services/
Chief Financial Officer



SANDRA SPAGNOLI
Chief of Police