

Memorandum

REPORT TO: City Commission

FROM: Jamie Grabinski, Grants Coordinator
Jim Veltkamp, Chief of Police
Aaron Funk, Controller
Melissa Hodnett, Finance Director

SUBJECT: Authorize the City Manager to Accept the "COPS" Hiring Grant

MEETING DATE: November 18, 2025

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Grant

RECOMMENDATION: Authorize the City Manager to accept the Community Oriented Police Services ("COPS") Hiring Grant

STRATEGIC PLAN: 1.3 Public Agencies Collaboration: Foster successful collaboration with other public agencies and build on these successes.

BACKGROUND:

As the City of Bozeman grows, so do the demands for law enforcement services. To be proactive and visible in the community, ensure appropriate response times, and deter and investigate crime sufficiently, additional police officers are needed. However, with these additional officers come additional costs. With the recent failure of a public safety mill levy, the City has continued looking for alternative sources for funding.

The City of Bozeman recently applied for and was awarded a competitive federal grant from the US Department of Justice's Community Oriented Police Services ("COPS") Hiring Grant program. The funding provided under this grant covers a portion of additional police officers' salaries and benefits for three years.

The grant awarded to the City of Bozeman will cover \$125,000 for 4 new officers, for a total of \$500,000 over three years. The City of Bozeman is responsible for the remaining costs.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES: None.

ALTERNATIVES: As suggested by the City Commission.

FISCAL EFFECTS:

The "COPS" grant funds 4 positions at varying percentages for up to three years. A budget amendment will be made in the General Fund to accept the grant revenue and increase personnel expenditures. Matching funds for FY26 are expected to be covered by vacancy savings, but if savings are unavailable, a budget amendment may be required at a later date.

Attachments:

[Pre-Acceptance Award Package_15JCOPS-25-GG-01000-UHPX_191829_AW-164185.pdf](#)

Report compiled on: October 31, 2025