

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. C(10)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: October 6, 2009

TITLE: A Request to Approve a Budget Amendment

DEPARTMENT: Police Department	PUBLIC HEARING: YES ____ NO <u>x</u>
ATTACHMENTS: A. Budget Amendment	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Carolyn Hutchison, Police Chief 918-7412 Sandra Svoboda, Management Services 918-7301

PURPOSE:

The Carrboro Police Department is receiving \$35,646 in grant revenues from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for the purchase of two K-9s. The Board is requested to approve a budget amendment to account for these revenues and expenditures.

INFORMATION:

The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program is the primary provider of federal criminal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions. The JAG funds support all components of the criminal justice systems, from multijurisdictional drug and gang task forces to crime prevention and domestic violence programs, courts, corrections, treatment, and justice information sharing initiatives. JAG funded projects may address crime through the provision of services directly to individuals and/or communities and by improving the effectiveness and efficiency of criminal justice systems, processes and procedures. The Carrboro Police Department plans to utilize the funds to outfit two additional canine units for the Patrol Division. Currently, two Patrol platoons have a canine unit assigned to them. The additional canine units provided by this grant will allow each of the four Patrol platoons to operate with an assigned canine unit. The Patrol platoons that currently operate without canine units have to request canine assistance from surrounding agencies. When this occurs, sometimes, the time lost waiting for assistance negatively impacts the officers' ability to locate evidence and suspects. Furthermore, when dealing with a possible threat, time is essential to preserve life and property.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Grant revenues offset the costs incurred by the Town. Future costs for vet bills, dog food, and equipment will become part of the police operating budget.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approve budget amendment as requested.