



Legislation Text

File #: 08-0572, **Version:** 1

Recommendation to authorize City Manager to execute a waiver of federal receipt of the City of Long Beach's tenth year allocation of \$16,566 in Juvenile Accountability Block Grant program funds to the County of Los Angeles, for the Juvenile Offender Intervention Network Program housed in Long Beach Juvenile Court, to divert first-time serious juvenile offenders from the court system through an intensive, one-year program. (Citywide)

On May 8, 2007, the City Council, for the ninth consecutive year, approved a waiver of the direct receipt of the City of Long Beach's (City) allocation of Federal Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) program funds to the County of Los Angeles (County). This approval authorized the County to use those funds for the Juvenile Offender Intervention Network (JOIN) Program housed in Long Beach Juvenile Court to divert first-time serious juvenile offenders from the court system through an intensive, one-year program that includes restitution for the victim, community service, counseling for youth and parents, and monitored school attendance.

In FY 06-07 (the last full year of operations), JOIN was offered to 9.2 percent of the minors entering juvenile court with a first-time serious offense, and more than 5.6 percent of all minors chose JOIN and were successfully diverted. A professional, independent evaluation has proven JOIN's effectiveness, with an overall 17 percent recidivism rate (measured over four years) compared to court/probation supervision with a recidivism rate of 44 percent. JOIN is also cost effective; it costs \$900 per youth for JOIN diversion and supervision, compared to \$7,000 per youth for adjudication and probation.

The City has received a tenth consecutive year of funding from the JABG program, administered by the State Board of Corrections. The allocation for the FY 08-09 program year is \$16,566, which must be expended on juvenile accountability in the criminal justice system.

The County has indicated a willingness to continue its partnership with the City under the JABG program. The City will use its allocation of JABG program funds to provide funding to the Juvenile Offender Intervention Network program administered by the County.

This item was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Gary Anderson on May 20, 2008 and Budget Management Officer Victoria Bell on May 22, 2008.

City Council action on this matter is requested on June 17, 2008 in order to submit the waiver to the County District Attorney's Office.

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

Approve recommendation.

ANTHONY W. BATTS
CHIEF OF POLICE

APPROVED:

PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER