



Legislation Text

File #: 21-1728, Version: 1

To: Harris County Commissioners Court

Through: Jim Bethke, Director, Justice Administration Department

Prepared By: Stephanie Armand, Program & Special Projects Administrator, Justice Administration Department

Subject: MacArthur Foundation Safety + Justice Challenge Grant No Cost Extension

Project ID (If applicable):

Purpose and Request:

Request by Justice Administration for authorization to accept an amendment to an agreement with the MacArthur Foundation to extend the grant end date to October 31, 2021 for the FY 2019 Safety & Justice Challenge Network Program.

Background and Discussion:

Harris County is in its sixth year in participating in the Safety + Justice Challenge with the MacArthur Foundation. The County was chosen in 2016 as one of eleven jurisdictions across the United States to receive \$2 million to implement strategies for justice system improvement. In 2019, we applied for a renewal grant and received \$2.1 million to continue the SJC work and expand our strategies. The renewal grant period will expire on June 30, 2021. MacArthur Foundation approved the request for a No Cost Extension on April 12, 2021. We are respectfully requesting approval for a no cost extension to enable the County to use unexpended grant funds in the amount of \$501,279 to cover several SJC strategies including the Racial and Ethnic Equity Committee work, three community micro grants, Pretrial Services Step-Down Pilot with GPL, and expanding JOY Pretrial Release Support Program.

Fiscal Impact:

Not Applicable

Fiscal Summary			
Expenditures	FY 20-21	FY 21-22 Projected	Future Years Projected [3 additional years]
Service Impacted: [Please specify division where expenditures will be incurred]			
Existing Budget			
Additional Appropriation Requested			
Total Expenditures			
Funding Sources			
Existing Department Budget			
Please Identify Funding Sources: Special Revenue, Grant, etc.			
[INSERT FUNDING SOURCES]			
Total Sources			

Alternatives:

Alignment with Strategic Objective:

This agenda item aligns with our strategic objective to ensure that Harris County's pretrial policies and practices balancing emphasis on defendants' Constitutional rights, safety of the community, and efficiency, while working to reduce punitiveness and racial/ethnic disparities.

Attachments:

*Email of Approval for No Cost Extension from the MacArthur Foundation
No Cost Extension Letter to MacArthur
SJC Renewal Grant 2019-2020*