Memorandum

DATE:       June 12, 2009

TO:         Members of the Public Safety Committee

SUBJECT:    American Recovery and Reinvestment Act - Internet Crimes Against Children Office Funding, Grant Award 2009-SN-B9-K013

The Dallas Police Department has been offered $776,503 through the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to partially fund its Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Squad. The Dallas ICAC is part of a national network of law enforcement agencies in 59 centers across the United States. Each local ICAC office is responsible for investigating incidents of online exploitation of children, primarily sexual solicitations and child pornography offenses, within its jurisdictional area. This ARRA award is specifically designed to help sustain the Dallas ICAC during the current economic downturn. The ARRA award will fully fund two police detective positions (salary and benefits) for four years. It also includes a small amount for office supplies.

This ARRA award is divided as follows:

Salary      $578,907.56
Benefits    $196,432.35
Supplies    $ 1,163.09
            $776,503.00

The ARRA grant funding dates are April 1, 2009 through March 31, 2013. It is expected that this will be a one-time, non-renewable grant.

The Police Department has also been receiving on-going grant funding since 1998 through the Department of Justice to partially fund its ICAC program. Current federal grant funding is in the amount of $550,000 awarded through grants 2008-MC-CX-K024 and 2008-MC-CX-K026. Those grants expire February 28, 2010, and a renewal request has already been submitted. This current funding pays for one detective position, equipment, training, and undercover expenses. It is important to note that the ARRA funding is separate and distinct from the on-going funding stream.

The City Council is to consider formally accepting the ARRA funding on June 24, 2009.

Should you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact Lieutenant C. L. Williams of the Crimes Against Children Unit.

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Ryan S. Evans
First Assistant City Manager