

City of Miami Gardens

DISCLOSURE OF PENDING APPLICATIONS STATEMENT

The City of Miami Gardens does not have any pending applications submitted within the last twelve (12) months for federally funded grants or subgrants (including cooperative agreements) that include requests for funding to support the same project being proposed under this solicitation and will cover the identical cost items outlined in the budget narrative and worksheet in the application under this solicitation.

Review Narrative

The contents of this application have been provided to the City of Miami Gardens Council prior to official submission. This document and attachments were provided to this body on Monday, June 27, 2016, electronically and in paper form. Additionally, the application was made available for public review on the MGPD Website on June 27, 2016 and at various locations within the City of Miami Gardens. As of the submission of this application no comments were provided to the submitting entity. The application will be made available for comment until Wednesday, July 27, 2016. Any comments received will be provided on an amended document and uploaded to the Grants Management System.

The goal of this initiative will be to reduce violent crime by 3% and property crimes by 10% in every District in the City of Miami Gardens and to increase community participation in crime fighting efforts and the overall goals of the agency.

Project Identifiers
Miami Gardens Police Department
Focus on Public Safety

- Violent Crime
- Crime Prevention
- Drugs
- Gangs
- Community Police

**Miami Gardens Police Department
 FOCUS ON Public Safety Program 16/17
 Budget Chart**

	Approximate Details	Officers	Sergeants	Hours	Ofc. Amt.	Sgt. Amt.	Total
Investigation/Operations "All Outs"	31	5	1	4 Hours per officer per detail, +4 hours for Sergeant	\$36,270.00	\$8,928.00	\$45,198.00
Interview Room Accoustic Enhancements	Accoustic Enhancements (4) Interview Rooms						\$10,044.00
Bicycles and Supporting Equipment	7 Bicycles						\$11,467.00
						Total	\$66,709.00
Rate of Overtime Pay including Fringe:	Sergeant \$72.00						
	Officer \$58.50						

The Divisions will utilize crime data and mapping created by the Department's Crime Analysis Unit (CAU). The CAU uses real time crime data to monitor crime rates in specific policing grids. The additional monitoring of social media provides an insight into violent gang activity in which strategies are developed to arrest offenders and deter future incidents.

The CAU conducts twenty-six (26) bi-weekly statistical meetings to identify crime trends and patterns. The Operations Division Community Enrichment Team (CET) is trained to interact with residents and business owners in these policing grids in ways to reduce and report crime, and offer referrals to social agencies of problematic youths for counseling and assisting in job searches. In addition, the officers will attempt to increase citizen participation in crime watch endeavors throughout the City of Miami Gardens. Community interaction and inclusion has been one of the main goals of the Miami Gardens Police Department since taking over police duties in the City of Miami Gardens. A disconnect had formed over the years between Police and the Community, since taking over policing duties, a trust has developed between the Miami Gardens Police Department and the Community which has led to a 10.54% crime drop in the past two (2) years. The goal of this initiative is to decrease crime by 3% throughout the City of Miami Gardens and to sign up new Crime Watch members throughout the City of Miami Gardens.

For a specific breakdown of overtime hourly rates and number of operational hours a Program Budget Chart is attached.

Budget Narrative

Funding from this allocation will be used to fund the Miami Gardens Police Department Focus on Public Safety FY 16/17 Project. The primary goal of this program is enhancing public safety and crime reduction which will be achieved through preventive patrol and concentrated enforcement. Funding from this allocation will be utilized to fund the following activities conducted by the Department's various divisions:

- The Investigations Division will be allotted \$10,044.00 to enhance the acoustic quality of four (4) interview rooms. The interview rooms are equipped with audio and video recording equipment. The recording equipment captures covert and formal statements of victims, witnesses and subjects. These recordings are vital to successful prosecutions. These recordings are introduced in Court to be heard by the Trial Judge and Jury in the most serious of violent crime prosecutions. Currently, the acoustics of these four (4) interview rooms have an adverse effect on the quality of the recordings by producing echoes and the introduction of external sounds. The majority of each recording is extremely distorted, making the conversations inaudible. Conversations in adjoining interview rooms are over-heard from one interview room to the next. This has a negative effect on the "Trier of Fact" in that the recorded evidence is not professional in nature and inaudible.
- The Operations Division will be allotted \$11,467.00 to purchase seven (7) bicycles and related equipment to increase the number of bicycle certified officers. The additional officers will utilize the Community Oriented Policing philosophy to increase direct community involvement. This will continue to improve the trust between the Community and Police, encourage more participation in Crime Watch groups and include citizens in the goal of reducing rising crime in problematic policing grids.
- The Investigations and Operations Divisions will be allotted \$45,198.00 to conduct thirty-one (31) "All Out" initiatives. The "All Out" initiative was created as a way to saturate policing grids experiencing a rise in crime. This is a multifaceted approach to crime reduction through presence, enforcement, social services referral and community contact. During the initiative, personnel from the Divisions will work to address particular areas for issues ranging from violent crime to quality of life problems. These operations have been very successful in the past and have resulted in a reduction in crime, an increase in arrests of violent offenders and an enhanced level of safety in those areas where the initiatives have been conducted. With the introduction of a social services referral component, it is believed the community will further benefit from this problem solving component of the program.

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These successful strategies will also be utilized to implement programs under this grant in order to obtain successful outcomes.

Funding will be used to coordinate overtime details within the Department's Investigative and Operations Divisions to enhance our performance, reduce crime and foster positive relationships with the Community. Our **Focus on Public Safety Program FY 16/17** will concentrate our efforts in a multitude of disciplines directed at increasing a community culture of safety within the City of Miami Gardens.

The Investigations and Operations Divisions will be allotted \$45,198.00 for "All Out" initiatives. The Divisions will conduct thirty-one (31) "All Out" initiatives utilizing funding received from this allocation. The Department created the "All Out" initiative as a way of saturating problem policing grids, along with a multifaceted approach to crime reduction through presence, enforcement, social services referral and community contact. During the initiative, personnel from the Divisions will work to address policing grids identified by the data in the bi-weekly COMPSTAT meetings that have a rise in crime rates.

Personnel from the Divisions will work to address particular policing grids for issues ranging from violent crime to quality of life problems. These operations have been very successful in the past and have resulted in a reduction in crime, an increase in arrests of violent offenders and an enhanced level of safety in those grids where the initiatives have been conducted. With the introduction of a social services referral component, it is anticipated the community will further benefit from this problem solving component of the program. The Community Enrichment Team (CET) will attempt to increase citizen participation in these problematic grids in crime watch endeavors throughout the City of Miami Gardens. They will make contact with business owners in these grids and provide them with crime prevention measures to reduce crime.

Community interaction and inclusion has been one of the main goals of the Miami Gardens Police Department since taking over policing duties in the City of Miami Gardens. A disconnect had formed over the years between Police and the Community, however since taking over policing duties, a trust has developed between the Miami Gardens Police Department and the Community which has led to a 10.54% crime drop over the past two (2) years. The goal of this initiative is to decrease crime throughout the City of Miami Gardens and to sign up new Crime Watch members. The goal of this initiative will be to reduce violent crime by 3% and property crimes by 10%.

The Investigations Division will be allotted \$10,044.00 to enhance the acoustic quality of four (4) interview rooms. The interview rooms are equipped with audio and video recording equipment. The recording equipment captures covert and formal statements of victims, witnesses and subjects. These recordings are vital to successful prosecutions. These recordings are introduced in Court to be

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heard by the Trial Judge and Jury in the most serious of violent and property crime prosecutions. Currently, the acoustics of these four (4) interview rooms have an adverse effect on the quality of the recordings by producing echoes and the introduction of external noise, such as, conversations in the adjoining interview rooms. The majority of each current audio recording is extremely distorted, making the conversations inaudible. This has a negative effect on the "Trier of Fact" to correctly understand recorded conversations. The current recorded evidence is not professional in nature, inaudible and has a negative effect on the professional image of the Department.

The Operations Division will be allotted \$11,467.00 to purchase seven (7) bicycles and support equipment to increase the number of bicycle certified officers. This will increase the number of officers coming in direct contact with the Community and enhance the goal of improving Community and Police relations, and engage more citizens to be included in reducing crime in problematic policing grids.

The goal of these initiatives will be to reduce violent crime by 3%, property crimes by 10%, enhance officer safety, more effective on responses to critical incidents, save lives and enhance the trust between the City's Residents and Police.

Since the MGPD's inception in December 2007, the rate of crime in the City has decreased by 49% and the public's perception of the public safety situation has become more positive. The strides this organization has made during its planning, inception and operation have been unprecedented and can serve as an outstanding model for others to follow. The funding utilized for the enhanced initiatives will assist the Department in moving forward to further reduce criminal activity and provide service to its residents. The responsiveness of the Department to "community problems" will foster greater community relations, assist victims, reduce crime and invigorate our growing community through prevention.

Program Narrative

The Miami Gardens Police Department (MGPD) began operations on December 16, 2007, after contracting for police services during the four (4) previous years with the Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD). The original operating staff of the Department consisted of one hundred fifty-nine (159) sworn officers. During the first year of operation, the City of Miami Gardens (CMG) terminated its contract for Specialized Service with the County and increased the sworn staff to two hundred and seven (207) as it assumed all investigative and crime scene duties from the MDPD. The Department will be completing its ninth year of service to the Citizens of the City of Miami Gardens at the end of 2016.

Currently, the Miami Gardens Police Department's authorized staffing level is two hundred and ten (210) sworn police officers, and serves the third largest municipality in Miami-Dade County, behind the Cities of Miami and Hialeah.

At the conclusion of 2015, a comparison of statistical data to calendar year 2014, disclosed a reduction key Part One Crimes such as a 21% reduction in burglaries, a 13% decrease in auto thefts, and a 9% reduction in larcenies. There was a 38% increase in criminal homicide (18 compared to 13 in 2014). These reductions played a part in an overall Part One crime reduction of over 49%, since the Miami Gardens Police Department started policing the streets of the City. This downturn is significant as it is the eight year in a row we've had a decrease in crime. This is especially significant when taking into consideration the economic climate the country is still experiencing. While this reduction is significant, it was achieved in part because of the enormity of the crime problem within the City. During calendar year 2010, the City of Miami Gardens recorded twenty-two (22) homicides, three hundred and fifty-one (351) robberies, six hundred and sixty-two (662) aggravated assaults and one thousand three hundred and twenty-one (1,321) burglaries.

The Department has achieved its ninth year of success through the effective deployment of our limited amount of personnel and the use of crime trend information, provided by our crime analyst, and communicated to our dedicated personnel. The implementation of Computer Statistics (COMPSTAT) has assisted the Department in coordinating efforts, measuring success and meeting our goals of crime reduction. COMPSTAT data identifies rises in crime rates for such crimes as robbery, burglary, auto theft and assaults, mostly attributed to gang activity and specifies individual policing grids and time frames of their occurrences. This data is generated from the Department's Record Management System that obtains information from the electronically prepared police reports due by the end of each officer's daily shift.

The COMPSTAT meetings form a level of accountability for all levels of supervision throughout the Department, as well as the individual zone officers.

Abstract

The Department will utilize these funds to enhance the quality of audio recordings, increase the number of bicycle certified officers, and coordinate operational initiatives aimed at increasing public safety, crime prevention/reduction strategies. The operational plans to be implemented have many components. Primary emphasis has been placed on the goal of providing a community culture of safety by:

- The Investigations Division will enhance the acoustic quality of four (4) interview rooms. The interview rooms are equipped with audio and video recording equipment. The recording equipment captures covert and formal statements of victims, witnesses and subjects. These recordings are vital to successful prosecutions. The recordings are introduced in Court to be heard by the Trial Judge and Jury in the most serious of violent crime prosecutions. Currently, the acoustics of these four (4) interview rooms have an adverse effect on the quality of the recordings by producing echoes, conversations in adjoining interview rooms being heard, and the introduction of external sounds inclusive of the adjoining interview rooms. The majority of each recording is extremely distorted, making the conversations inaudible. The goal of this initiative is to better preserve audio conversations in a higher digital standard to enhance the effectiveness of this evidence for Court presentations.
- The Operations Division will purchase seven (7) bicycles and supported equipment to increase the number of bicycle certified officers. This will place more officers in direct contact with the community and will assist in increasing community interaction and inclusion with police.
- The Investigations Division, in conjunction with the Operations Division, will conduct thirty-one (31) "All Out" initiatives based on crime data developed during the bi-weekly Computer Statistics (COMPSTAT) Meetings. The Department created the "All Out" initiative as a way of saturating problem policing grids using a multifaceted approach. During the initiative, personnel from the Investigations and Operations Divisions will work together to address a policing grid for issues ranging from violent and property crime to quality of life problems. The Community Enrichment Team (CET) will conduct initiatives to target enforcement based on COMPSTAT meetings which identify crime trends and patterns. CET will attempt to increase citizen participation in crime watch endeavors throughout the City of Miami Gardens. Community interaction and inclusion has been one of the main goals of the Miami Gardens Police Department since taking over policing duties from Miami-Dade County. Since taking over policing duties, a trust has and is continuing to develop between the Police Department and the Community which has led to a 10.54% crime drop in the past two (2) years. The goal of this initiative is to decrease crime in every Law Beat in the City of Miami Gardens and to sign up one hundred (100) new Crime Watch members throughout the City of Miami Gardens. The goal of this initiative will be to reduce violent crime by 3% and property crimes by 10%.



Public Notice

The City of Miami Gardens Police Department will release for public review and comment its application for the **Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Formula Program: Local Solicitation**. In accordance with the public comment requirements of the Grant program. The City of Miami Gardens Police Department will make the Grant available for the public to review and comment at the time and places below:

The formal review and comment period will open on Monday, **June 27, 2016** and will close on Wednesday, **July 27, 2016**. Residents may review the grant at the following locations:

Miami Gardens Police Department Headquarters

18611 NW 27th Avenue
Miami Gardens, FL 33056-3106
From 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

North Dade Regional Library

2455 NW 183rd Street
Miami Gardens, FL 33056

City of Miami Gardens City Hall

18605 NW 27th Avenue
Miami Gardens, FL 33056
From 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Miami Gardens Police Department Website

<http://www.miamigardenspolice.org>

All comments should be directed to:

Gary Smith, Commander of Investigations

Via phone: 305-474-1511

Via email: Gary.smith@mgpfd.org