

Legislation Text

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The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and possibly take action to provide consent to submit a grant application to the Pinal County Attorney's Office for Racketeering Influenced Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) funding in an amount not to exceed \$7,500 to purchase a vehicle to implement a Mobile Recreation Program. Consent to submit a grant application provides the City Manager authority to sign all necessary documents to complete the application. Discussion and Action.

Each fiscal or calendar year, the Pinal County Attorney's Office funds programs. It is preferable that recipients are non-profit organizations with a 501 c(3) IRS Status. RICO funds are to be used for the prevention of crime with an emphasis on crime/gang prevention programs and substance abuse prevention/education programs. All agencies requesting funds must submit a proposal providing information about the program, the individuals to be served, the expected outcome of the program, and the total predicted cost for the program. Funding is contingent on availability of monies.

The City of Maricopa Youth Coordinator attended a quarterly community justice meeting in Maricopa to discuss the possibility of implementing a Mobile Recreation Unit for elementary aged youth in Maricopa. Maricopa was encouraged to submit an application for consideration.

The City of Maricopa would like to provide a mobile recreation unit that can visit local elementary schools and provide safe, fun recreational activities as well as education about the dangers of drugs, alcohol and tobacco. The program provides trained staff members and job opportunities for teens. In 2011, The Community Services Department received a grant award from the Maricopa, Ak-Chin, Stanfield and Hidden Valley (MASH) Anti-Substance Abuse Coalition to purchase equipment and supplies for this program, such as hands on models of the dangers of alcohol and drugs and games to promote nutrition and exercise. In order to implement the program, Recreation Staff would like to purchase a used truck, to pull the existing trailer, in order to implement the program in the schools. Fuel costs are estimated to be \$1,000 assuming 3,000 miles driven per year at a cost of \$5 per gallon. The estimated vehicle maintenance cost is \$1,000 annually.

Staff recommends submitting a grant application to the Pinal County Attorney's Office for Racketeering Influenced Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) funding in an amount not to exceed \$7,500 to purchase vehicle to implement the Mobile Recreation Program.