

Council Agenda Item 26-5012R



MEETING DATE: June 15, 2026

SUBJECT/TITLE: United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership Reimbursement Program

SUBMITTED BY: Kerry Cronin-Jones

RECOMMENDATION: Approve

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: Last approved on November 12, 2024

BACKGROUND: The United States Department of Justice’s Bureau of Justice Assistance administers the Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Program, a critical officer-safety initiative established in 1999 to help law enforcement agencies equip officers with lifesaving ballistic protection. Under this program, every peace officer is issued a ballistic vest upon hiring and receives a replacement vest every five years to ensure continued protection and compliance with safety standards. The BVP Program reimburses up to 50 percent of the total purchase cost, significantly reducing the financial burden on local governments while helping ensure that the men and women who protect our community have access to reliable, modern protective equipment. Investing in ballistic vests is not only a commitment to officer safety, but also a commitment to public safety, operational readiness, and responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT: Approval of this purchase allows the City to participate in the United States Department of Justice’s Bulletproof Vest Partnership reimbursement program, resulting in a 50 percent reimbursement of eligible costs back to the General Fund. This reimbursement significantly reduces the City’s net expense while ensuring officers are equipped with required lifesaving protective equipment.

If the purchase is not approved through the reimbursement program, the General Fund would bear 100 percent of the replacement costs already incurred for ballistic vests. Participation in the program therefore represents both a fiscally responsible use of public funds and a proactive investment in officer and community safety.

NECESSARY ACTION: Please approve

ATTACHMENTS: 2025 Patrick Leahy BVP Application