City of Asheville Staff Report

City Council Meeting Date: July 28, 2026

Staff Resources: Jackie Stepp - APD Interim Police Chief

Elise Lewis - APD Financial Business Manager

Action Requested: Adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply for and accept the 2025 Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Grant from the United States Department of Justice and adoption of a budget amendment in the City's Special Revenue Fund in the amount of $80,471.80.

Background:

- The City of Asheville receives an annual opportunity to apply for a U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Grant.
- The DOJ bases the award of these funds on the number of replacement vests needed for existing officers and on estimates of the number of new officers to be hired in the coming year.
- The DOJ has determined that the Asheville Police Department (APD) is eligible to receive the 2025 grant in the amount of $40,235.90, which requires a dollar-for-dollar match from the City.
- Bulletproof vests expire after 5 years, and during the life of this grant, 36 current officers' vests will expire and require replacement.
- The funding will allow the purchase of 68 bulletproof vests over the grant's two-year term. This also allows APD to use the grant for vests for 32 newly hired officers.

Vendor Outreach:

- Not applicable; Federally funded grant opportunity

Council Vision 2036 Focus Area(s):

- Fiscally Resilient City

Council Priority Recovery Area(s):

- Economic Recovery

Committee(s):

- None

Fiscal Impact:

- Funding for the required $40,235.90 local match has been identified in the Asheville Police Department's current fiscal year operating budget.
- This grant offsets the cost of equipment replacement that would otherwise be borne in full by the City.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply for and accept the 2025 BVP Grant from the U.S. Dept. of Justice; and to adopt a budget amendment in the City's Special Revenue Fund in the amount of $80,471.80.

Attachment(s):

- Resolution
- Budget Amendment

City of Asheville Resolution Number 26-___

Resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply for and accept the 2025 Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Grant from the U.S. Dept. of Justice.

Whereas, the City of Asheville has authority pursuant to N.C.G.S. 160A-17.1 to apply for and receive grants from the Federal Government and to enter into contracts for the administration of said grants; and

Whereas, pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes section 160A-461 and the City of Asheville Grants policy, City Council approval is required to apply for and accept grants from federal agencies and grants valued at $90,000 or more that require a City match; and

Whereas, the City of Asheville receives an annual opportunity to apply for a United States Department of Justice (DOJ), Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant (BVP); and

Whereas, the DOJ has determined that the Asheville Police Department (APD) has been awarded the 2025 grant in the amount of $40,235.90, which requires a dollar-for-dollar match by the City; and

Whereas, the APD will use the funds to purchase 68 bulletproof vests over the two-year life of the grant;

Now, Therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Asheville that:

The City Manager is hereby authorized to apply for, accept and enter into an agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice for a Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant in the amount of $40,235.90.

Read, approved and adopted this 28th day of July, 2026.

_____
Esther E. Manheimer, Mayor

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Brad Branham, City Attorney

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Magdalen Burleson, City Clerk

City of Asheville Budget Amendment Ordinance Number ____

Be it Ordained by the City Council of the City of Asheville:

That Section 2 of the City of Asheville Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget Ordinance be amended to provide an appropriation of $80,471.80 to accept a grant from the Department of Justice for the 2025 Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant (BVP) as follows:

Special Revenue Fund

Revenues:

Federal Grants	$40,235.90
Operating Transfer from General Fund	$40,235.90
Total Revenues	$80,471.80

Appropriations:

Safety Equipment	$80,471.80

That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon the date of final passage.

Read, approved and adopted this 28th day of July, 2026.

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Esther E. Manheimer, Mayor

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Brad Branham, City Attorney

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Magdalen Burleson, City Clerk