City of Asheville Staff Report

City Council Meeting Date: August 25, 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 accept the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) 2025 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance (JAG) Grant and execute all documents associated with the grant, and to adopt a budget amendment in the City's Special Revenue Fund in the amount of $80,898.00.

Background:

- The City of Asheville receives an annual opportunity to apply for a Department of Justice (DOJ) Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant.
- The DOJ has determined that the Asheville Police Department (APD) is eligible to receive a 2025 award of $80,898.00, which is allocated to the APD and the Buncombe County Sheriff's Office in the amounts of $67,053 and $13,845, respectively.
- APD will use the funds to purchase and install 28 new Cradlepoint devices and antennas in 28 police vehicles to replace outdated equipment.
- Cradlepoint devices are rugged, vehicle-mounted Wi-Fi routers that use LTE cellular data to create a secure local network inside police vehicles. This mobile network seamlessly connects essential onboard equipment—such as laptops, tablets, and video recording systems—ensuring all digital tools remain linked, synced, and operational on the road.
- Buncombe County will use the funds to purchase new camera equipment, existing equipment conversions, external flashes, and new infrared equipment for the Crime Scene Unit (CSI).

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 - directly to City Council per Assistant City Manager Jade Dundas

Fiscal Impact:

- Matching funds are not required for this grant.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to accept the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) 2025 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance (JAG) Grant and execute all documents associated with the grant, and to adopt a budget amendment in the City's Special Revenue Fund in the amount of $80,898.00.

Attachment(s):

- Resolution
- Budget Amendment

City of Asheville Resolution Number 26-___

Resolution authorizing the City Manager to accept the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) 2025 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance (JAG) Grant and execute all documents associated with the grant.

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

Whereas, the City of Asheville receives annual opportunity to apply for a United States Department of Justice (DOJ) Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant; and

Whereas, the U.S. DOJ has determined that the Asheville Police Department (APD) is eligible to receive a grant of $80,898.00, which is allocated to the APD and the Buncombe County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) in the amounts of $67,053 and $13,845, respectively;

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

The City Manager is hereby authorized to accept and enter into an agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice for an Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of $80,898, with the expectation that $67,053 will be allocated to the APD, and $13,845 will be distributed to the BCSO, and to execute all documents associated with the grant.

Read, approved and adopted this 25th day of August, 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

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 Annual Operating Budget Ordinance be amended to provide an appropriation of $80,898.00 to accept a federal grant from the U.S. Department of Justice for an Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant, as follows:

SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

Revenues:	
Federal Grants	$80,898
Appropriations:	
Mach & Equipment	$67,053
Awarded Grants	$13,845
Total Appropriations	$80,898

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

Read, approved and adopted this 25th day of August, 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