City of Asheville Staff Report

City Council Meeting Date: October 27, 2026

Staff Resources: Tony McDowell, , CFO, Finance and Management Services Director

Becki Ogles, Assistant Director, Finance and Management Services

Action Requested: Adoption of a budget amendment in the amount of $359,822 to recognize revenue received from the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation for the Local Law Enforcement Bonus Program and budget the associated expense in the Police Department budget.

Background:

- As part of the North Carolina State budget approved in July 2026, funding was appropriated for a Local Law Enforcement Bonus Program.
- The program provides a one-time bonus of $1,750 to all sworn local law enforcement officers who were employed as of June 30, 2026.
- For the City of Asheville, 191 sworn police officers met this qualification and were eligible to receive the bonus.
- Funding from the State Bureau of Investigation was provided directly to the City of Asheville and was distributed to eligible officers as part of a separate payroll which occurred on October 15th, 2026.
- The funding from the State Bureau of Investigation covers the full cost of the bonus including the employer portion of FICA taxes.

Vendor Outreach: Not applicable

Council Vision 2036 Focus Area(s):

- Thriving Local Economy

Council Priority Recovery Area(s):

- People

Committee(s):

- Not applicable

Fiscal Impact:

- The program is paid entirely with State funds. No City resources are needed.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a budget amendment of $359,822 to recognize revenue received from the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation for the Local Law Enforcement Bonus Program and budget the associated expense in the Police Department budget.

Attachment(s):

- Budget amendment

City of Asheville Budget Amendment Ordinance Number ____

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

That Section 1 of the City of Asheville Annual Operating Budget Ordinance be amended to provide an appropriation of $359,822 to the General Fund for the Local Law Enforcement Bonus Program, as follows:

General Fund

Revenues:

State Bureau of Investigation Local Law Enforcement Bonus Program - $359,822

Expenditures:

Payment to law enforcement employees - $359,822

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

Read, approved and adopted this 27th day of October, 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