

Narrative

February 7, 2023



RESOLUTION – RURAL CRIME REDUCTION GRANT

The City of Alliance has been impacted with violent crime. Violent Crime is defined as: Murder, Non-negligent Manslaughter, Forcible Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault.

As of 11/28/22 City of Alliance Violent Crime

(<https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiYTBiMTkwNDAtMjIwNy00MGE4LTNmMDktNWJiMjdlOTAwNGRjIiwidCI6IjgxMGUyYjFkLWlxZGQtdGlnNi04MzAzLWMwMTYlMDBhNWNmYSJ9>):

Violent Crime	2020	2021	2022 YTD	YTD % Change
Assault	132	145	133	-8.30%
Homicide	2	1	0	-100.00%
Kidnapping	8	6	3	-50.00%
Sex Offenses	14	15	15	0.00%
Robbery	2	9	2	-77.80%

To address these crimes in the rural areas of the US, the Rural Violent Crime Reduction Initiative sponsored by the National Policing Institute and the Bureau of Justice is awarding up to \$150,000 to agencies for new implementation of technology and human centered policing tactics to reduce these crimes. This closely aligns with the Alliance Police Department strategic plan, and we expressed interest. The Alliance Police Department was notified on January 26, 2023, that we were selected to receive the grant from the National Policing Institute for \$150,000 total from 02/01/23 to 01/31/2025.

In fiscal year 2022, the police department received grant funding from the state to pay for Datalytics licensing allowing for public dashboards and data reporting. The department also purchased a license from Know Your Force for real time survey and follow-up regarding staff performance.

For fiscal year 2023, we are continuing Datalytics and Know Your Force which were budgeted for. The department budgeted for Zencity a license which helps educate the community through social media and conducts surveys to get actual community feedback. Terawe allows for virtual body cam footage analysis to ensure we are meeting the needs of the community on calls for service as well as interacting appropriately. Further Terawe transcribes body cam footage reducing the need to type report narratives. Tina Rowe training which just occurred two weeks ago assists in teaching problem solving policing issues.

This grant acceptance allows the police department to be reimbursed for most of the technology and training already planned for and purchased or about to be purchased in 2023 and will fund for 2024. This is a tremendous offset to the police department budget providing more money back to the general fund without compromising service, safety, or satisfaction.

With these already planned purchases, the department will be able to provide a greater policing service to the community without the need for staff tasks. This affords staff more time to be on the street interacting with the public in lieu of sitting in the station working on reviews and paperwork. Most importantly we will be able to educate our community, partner with them in a greater capacity and reduce victimization for people in our community.

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The implementation of this technology saves the city in personnel and costs. For the tasks needed going forward to address these crimes in our community, the department historically had one detective position. This position had an annual impact of approximately \$75,000 in salary and benefits. Each sergeant has to spend part of their day monitoring officer performance and reviewing paperwork. However, the sergeants are also expected to assist with calls for service on the street. In essence the time sergeants spend on the street is significantly reduced also causing a financial impact if positions were to be added so their absence is covered. Further officers spend a tremendous amount of time typing reports when their body cam footage can automatically be dictated and provided in a report saving thousands of hours. To cover sergeant tasks, extra planning for community education and officer narrative typing while providing the same level of service would impact the department approximately 4 FTE's at approximately \$75,000 each in salary and benefits annually. This totals \$750,000 for two years. Recognizing the cost savings caused the department to proceed with technology licenses in fiscal year 2023.

If the department does not accept these funds, the general fund is impacted reducing services the city is able to provide by \$150,000. Further it ensures the progress the police department is making with crime reduction can continue in fiscal year 2024.

The City of Alliance Police Department is able to utilize these funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to all calls for service without compromise to the community. This capital enhances our ability to police the community without additional staff.

RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE THE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RURAL CRIME REDUCTION GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$150,000.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-08

WHEREAS, The City of Alliance Police Department applied for grant funding through the Rural Violent Crime Reduction Initiative; and

WHEREAS, The Alliance Police Department has been selected to received One Hundred Fifty Thousand and No/100ths Dollars (\$150,000) from the National Policing Institute; and

WHEREAS, The Alliance City Council finds it in the best interest of the citizens of Alliance and the Alliance Police Department to accept the grant funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the City of Alliance, Nebraska, authorizes the acceptance of One Hundred Fifty Thousand and No/100ths Dollars (\$150,000) of grant funding from the National Policing Institute.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The Mayor is authorized to accept and execute all documents associated with this grant.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 7th day of February, 2023.

Mike Dafney, Mayor

(SEAL)

Attest: _____
Tarrah S. Johnson, City Clerk

Approved as to Form and Legality:

Simmons Olsen Law Office, Legal Counsel