



## **Staff Report:**

Issue: Consideration to participate in a MN State Human Trafficking Grant

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### **BACKGROUND:**

The MN State grant that has provided funding to, staff and maintain, the Central MN Human Trafficking Task Force is open for renewal with a submission deadline of October 27, 2021. The participants in this grant has included the St. Cloud Police Department, the Stearns County Attorney's Office, the Stearns County Sheriff's Department and the Waite Park Police Department. The task force currently has two investigators assigned to it, one from St. Cloud PD and one from the Stearns County Sheriff's Office. There is interest in adding a third investigator position to the task force potentially from Waite Park PD. Waite Park PD has had an investigator assigned to this task force in the past but does not currently due to some staff shortages. This is a competitive grant so there is no guarantee that we will be successful in getting additional funding to expand our local task force. This new grant application will include a request to provide 100% funding of salary and benefits for two years the Waite Park Police Department to the ability to hire an additional police office to accommodate the assignment of an investigator to this task force. If additional funding is approved this would add one police officer to the department bring our authorized sworn personnel staff to 22 officers. While this grant has been renewed twice previously future renewals, while likely, are not guaranteed. If we are unable to fully fund this position under the grant, we would not move forward with hiring an additional officer.

### **REQUIRED ACTION:**

Approve or Deny the following actions:

1. Participation in the State of MN Human Trafficking Grant application

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Approve as proposed.

### **SUGGESTED MOTIONS:**

Council member \_\_\_\_\_ moved to approve OR deny participating in the State of MN Human Trafficking Grant application as presented or with the following revisions: \_\_\_\_\_



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Council member \_\_\_\_\_ seconded the motion.

**ROLL CALL**

Councilmember Michael Linquist \_\_\_\_\_  
Councilmember Ken Schmitt \_\_\_\_\_  
Councilmember Vic Schulz \_\_\_\_\_  
Councilmember Frank Theisen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Richard Miller \_\_\_\_\_

Motion (Approved) (Denied)