



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Montre' Freeman, City Manager
J. Phillip Webster, Chief of Police

Date: November 22, 2023

Subject: Consideration – Authorization to Apply for the PAL Mentoring Grant for FY2024

BACKGROUND:

Recently, the Elizabeth City Police Department (ECPD) discovered that the National PAL Program received \$4,000,000 in funding through the US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to implement mentoring programs nationwide. These grant opportunities allow for positive youth development activities through local PAL chapters to provide greater opportunities for individual/group mentoring and youth academic achievement. The mission of this program is the prevention of juvenile crime and violence by cultivating relationships with the youth. National PAL believes that if you reach the youth at an early age, it increases the likelihood that they will become productive adults and positive agents of change.

This will be the eighth year the ECPD has applied for the PAL Mentoring Grant. Please note that there is no City match required for this grant, and therefore no budgetary impact.

ANALYSIS:

With the acquisition and implementation of previous PAL grant awards, the ECPD was able to serve local youth through organized enrichment activities for the past seven years. Some of the activities included educational trips, both to local and out-of-town sites, which provided great opportunities and experiences these children may otherwise not have been able to take part in or enjoy. Overall, the goal of the PAL program is to make a positive impact and to bridge the gap between youth, community, and police.

The total amount of the grant award is \$18,900. Should the ECPD be successful in its grant application and receive funding for FY 2024, we estimate that we will be able to serve 18 youth via this award.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

By motion, authorize the Elizabeth City Police Department's application as a sub-grant award recipient of the FY23-24 National PAL Youth Mentoring Grant for \$18,900 to continue serving the youth of our community.