

POLICE PEER SUPPORT



# Peace Officer Mental Health Support

CITY COUNCIL MEETING -

City Staff Representative: Doug Imfeld, Commander Support Services

1

POLICE PEER SUPPORT



## Overview and Background

- On April 4, 2017, Governor Hickenlooper signed into law House Bill 17-1215 Concerning Mental Health Support for Peace Officers. The bill amended Colorado Revised Statute § 24-32-3501 (C.R.S.) to create a grant program within the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) for eligible agencies to engage mental health professionals who can provide:
  - On-scene response services to support peace officers' handling of persons with mental health disorders; and
  - Counseling services to peace officers
- Brighton Police Department has applied and utilized these grant funds since 2019
- Grant funds are awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis until exhausted
  - 2022 legislature authorized a total of \$3,000,000.00 in funds

2

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## August 2019 – December 2020 Grant Funds

- Department awarded \$50,000.00
- Department executed \$25463.76 of the total \$50,000.00
  - 150 mental health provider officer visits
  - 50 alternative wellness office visits
  - 8 department peer support and wellness webinars and trainings
  - 5 critical incident debriefs
- Not all department expenditure requests were able to be completed for example:
  - \$10,000.00 of physical fitness equipment unable to be purchased

3

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## April 2021 – March 2023 Grant Funds

- Department awarded \$10,000.00
- Department has executed \$6472.08 of the total \$10,000.00 to date:
  - 65 mental health provider officer visits
  - 7 department peer support and wellness webinars and trainings
  - 2 critical incident debriefs
- Department asked for more funds but due to the increased applications across the state the amount was reduced

4

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## Proposed 2022 Fund Application

- Department requesting \$25,000.00
  - \$20,000.00 for mental health provider officer visits
  - \$2,500.00 peer support team supervision and critical incident debriefs
  - \$2,500.00 training, wellness webinars, peer support team education
- Grant funds have been expanded in 2022 to cover immediate family members of peace officers – we expect increased usage with this expanded coverage
- Application window opened for 1 month and closes on January 28, 2022

5

POLICE PEER SUPPORT



## Options for City Council

- Brighton City Council has the following options in this matter:
  - Approve and authorize application submission for \$20,000.00 in Colorado Department of Local Affairs managed grant funds for Peace Officer Mental Health Support.
  - Disapprove and do not authorize application submission.

6