

RES15-013

Wilmington, Delaware
April 2, 2015

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the Code of the City of Wilmington (the “City”), all City-sponsored grant applications or proposals must be approved by City Council; and

#4035

Sponsor:

Council
Member
D. Brown

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Early Morning Inspections/Community Enforcement Task Force Initiative (the “Task Force Initiative”) is a proposal by the City’s Department of Licenses and Inspections to aggressively implement an expanded, visible and effective “community-building” Code enforcement presence in “hot spot” (high-crime) neighborhoods within the City; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force Initiative will allow for the use of evidence-based practices in the targeted areas, and the input from residents and front-line officers regarding effective tactics and deployment strategies, and will utilize Code violation data and crime data; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force Initiative will enable residents and Code enforcement officers to have face-to-face contact and will foster the development of relationships; and

WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Building Blocks Fund consists of \$1,000,000.00 allocated from a settlement with JP Morgan Chase & Co., and is intended to support crime reduction, neighborhood revitalization, and economic development programs in the State of Delaware; and

WHEREAS, the City, through the Department of Licenses and Inspections, is submitting a grant application to the Neighborhood Building Blocks Fund in the amount of \$99,091.00, which will provide funding for the deployment of four (4) additional Code enforcement officers (2 teams of 2 each) in high-crime and high volume Code violation areas

in the City from April 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015, during the hours of 6:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m., four (4) days a week; and

WHEREAS, funds from the grant will also provide for vacant and abandoned property maintenance, senior assistance for grass cutting and minor repairs, printing costs, safety vests and flashlights for the Code enforcement officers, and compensation of meals (per bargaining agreement) to the Code enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, upon award of the grant, the City will integrate the activities and practices of the Task Force Initiative in its weekly staffing meeting with its Directors and the Delaware Department of Justice and other relevant departments and offices.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that the Department of Licenses and Inspections is hereby authorized to apply to the Neighborhood Building Blocks Fund for grant funds in the amount of \$99,091.00 to fund the Task Force Initiative.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Licenses and Inspections shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to complete the submission of the grant application, and, if and when the grant is forthcoming, to administer the grant for the City.

Passed by City Council,
April 2, 2015

Attest: Maribel Seijo
City Clerk

Approved as to form this 2nd day
of April, 2015.

Dana Shatt
Assistant City Solicitor