



CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

FROM: The Office of the City Manager **DATE:** January 27, 2025

SUBJECT: Consider an interlocal agreement between the cities of North Richland Hills, Haltom City, Watauga and Richland Hills continuing the partnership for the joint Crime Victim Assistance Program.

PRESENTER: Mike Young, Chief of Police

SUMMARY:

The City of North Richland Hills has been awarded grant funding under the Victims of Crime Act through the Office of the Governor's General Victim Assistance FY25 Grant. With the new grant funding, the cities of North Richland Hills, Haltom City, Watauga and Richland Hills are continuing their partnership in the Joint Crime Victim Assistance Program.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The City of North Richland Hills (NRH) made application for the Office of the Governor's FY25 Victim Assistance–General Direct Services Grant Program and was awarded funding for the Crime Victim Assistance Program. The cities of NRH, Haltom City, Watauga and Richland Hills are continuing their partnership in the joint program for the purposes of providing services and assistance directly to victims of crime to speed their recovery and aid them through the criminal justice process.

The partner cities are desirous to enter into an interlocal agreement to continue providing prompt, comprehensive, and compassionate victim services to all victims of violent crime in the four-city area by providing trained crime victim advocates to assist them throughout the process and beyond once any criminal proceedings are concluded. NRH will be the fiscal agent for the newly awarded grant and will manage the program's personnel, related costs, and equipment. Any matching requirements and additional program costs will be shared with the partner cities based on percentages outlined in the agreement for program expense sharing.

The previous agreement expired September 30, 2024. This agreement is to continue the program for a term of two years effective as of October 1, 2024 and ending September 30, 2026. Subject to the availability of funding, the agreement shall be automatically extended for successive one-year terms through September 30, 2028, unless any party gives written notice of cancellation. As long as funding is available, the extended terms shall not require additional City Council approval.



RECOMMENDATION:

Consider an interlocal agreement between the cities of North Richland Hills, Haltom City, Watauga and Richland Hills continuing the partnership for the joint Crime Victim Assistance Program.