



Legislation Text

File #: R-19-199, Version: 1

CITY of ALBUQUERQUE
TWENTY THIRD COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. R-19-199 ENACTMENT NO. _____

SPONSORED BY: Brad Winter, Trudy E. Jones, Ken Sanchez

RESOLUTION

Adjusting The Fiscal Year 2020 General Fund Appropriations To Provide Funding For The Party Patrol Program (Winter, Jones, Sanchez)

WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque has as one of its goals to enhance local law enforcement efforts thereby providing for the public safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque is committed to providing law enforcement support to combat underage drinking by reducing alcohol-related crashes, injuries, and deaths; and

WHEREAS, 1,544 New Mexicans died from alcohol-related causes in 2018, up six percent from 2017; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Department of Health reports New Mexico has had the highest alcohol-related death rate of any U.S. state in recent decades; and

WHEREAS, one of the most abused drugs in the United States is alcohol that many people start using at a very young age; and

WHEREAS, one drink can impair decision-making and slow down reaction time; and

WHEREAS, underage drinking is linked to crime, violence, and safety concerns; and

WHEREAS, the Albuquerque Police Department's Party Patrol Program is a comprehensive enforcement, prevention, and educational program designed to prevent underage drinking and the severe consequences that can follow; and

WHEREAS, the Albuquerque Police Department reported October 1, 2019, that authorities are seeing an increase in dangerous crimes at house parties involving minors and state that house

parties involving alcohol, involving uninvited guests and gun violence is a major problem they want to address; and

WHEREAS, in the past, the Party Patrol program has been hugely successful by reducing the number of "Minor in Possession" citations, reducing the sale of alcohol to minors by local vendors, and increasing felony arrests of adults who purchase alcohol for minors; and

WHEREAS, the Party Patrol had also been successful with recovering firearms when responding to party calls; and

WHEREAS, December 2004 the City reported the Party Patrol Officers responded to 304 party calls and recovered 23 firearms in an eight-month span; and

WHEREAS, we are seeing an alarming amount of gun-related offenses involving teenagers, with charges ranging from weapon-law violations to murder; and

WHEREAS, juveniles report that they are most likely to carry guns at parties or say they came in possession of a firearm at parties; and

WHEREAS, the Party Patrol works with community partners and volunteers to distribute educational materials to individuals of all ages at community events; and

WHEREAS, in addition, Party Patrol Officers are sent out to public and private high schools in the metropolitan area to educate kids about the dangers of underage drinking and the associated risks; and

WHEREAS, the City Council feels that continued funding for the Party Patrol is essential to the safety of Albuquerque's young people; and

WHEREAS, Grant Omnibus Resolution R-19-172 was approved by the City Council on September 18, 2019, and included an appropriation of a grant in the amount of \$42,000 for the Party Patrol program; and

WHEREAS, to date, APD has expended a majority of the grant funding on efforts to reduce the sale of liquor to minors and the purchase of alcohol by adults on behalf of minors; and

WHEREAS, the City recently received a lump-sum distribution of New Mexico Gross Receipts Tax for catch-up payments from retailers who were misreporting location information to the New Mexico Tax and Revenue Department; and

WHEREAS, excess funding from the lump sum distributions is available in the General Fund to supplement grant funding for the Party Patrol program.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE:

Section 1. That the following appropriation is made from the available fund balance to the following program for the Fiscal Year 2020:

GENERAL FUND - 110

Police Department

Neighborhood Policing	\$150,000
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This amount is designated for Party Patrol activities

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