

<i>Tab</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Option</i>	<i>Version</i>
97	1	B	1

Budget Action description:

The Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) was established in 2011 as a means of diverting low-level drug and prostitution offenders to case managed services rather than booking them into jail. This green sheet would move \$415,000 of GSF in 2015 from Finance General to the Human Services Department (HSD) to fully fund the LEAD program. It also requests that the program provide written quarterly reports the Public Safety, Civil Rights and Technology Committee reporting on the performance of program to include:

- Count of entries, by demographics, into the LEAD program during the quarter;
- The overall demographics of those served by the LEAD program;
- The count of services received and the combination of services received; and
- Arrests during the quarter of those in the LEAD program.

The proposed budget for 2015 includes \$830,000 for LEAD. Of that amount, \$415,000 (six months of operating funds) is placed in Finance General. The entire amount (\$830,000) for 2016 is in Finance General. The funds were put there pending the release of a rigorous evaluation of the project.

LEAD Oversight Committee members are concerned that placing the funds in Finance General creates uncertainty and could impact the performance of the program. Social services providers must plan to have resources available in order to serve the expected population. Police officers who are involved in the project need to know that LEAD is an option when they refer a client for services. The question of funding after six months may limit the ability to plan and staff to an effective level – limiting participation and impacting the program’s outcomes. This green sheet would make all the LEAD funding available for use in 2015 and requests that LEAD provide the City Council Public Safety, Civil Rights, and Technology Committee with written quarterly reports on the program’s progress. Operating funds for 2016 remain in Finance General pending the review of these quarterly reports and the ongoing evaluation process. The City Council intends to place a proviso on the \$830,000 GSF in 2016 that is currently in Finance General.

The City Council believes in alternatives to jail for low-level, non-violent offenders when individuals are receptive to alternatives that include social services to address conditions related to these offenses. The Council recognizes that street crime and disorder are significant issues in some neighborhood business districts. It wants the police officers of the City to take proactive steps to address these issues by using a continuum of actions, ranging from arrest and prosecution to alternatives that avoid the traditional path of the criminal justice system. This being said, officials know that the most harm is caused by a relatively few individuals who persistently engage in criminal behavior. The Council wants police officers to focus the traditional arrest and prosecution efforts on these individuals, especially those engaged in violent crime, public narcotics trafficking, and misdemeanor crimes that cause fear and contribute to a sense of lawlessness. These high frequency offenders should find no tolerance of their crimes, particularly for those who refuse alternatives to arrest like the LEAD program.

Background

LEAD was slated for evaluation in 2014. Data issues slowed the process. However, on September 30, 2014 the first, preliminary component of a multi-phased evaluation process was released. The evaluation – comprised

<i>Tab</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Option</i>	<i>Version</i>
97	1	B	1

of a quantitative look at recidivism outcomes and a modest qualitative examination of participants' experiences – found that there were no significant short-term changes to recidivism outcomes. There were statistically significant long-term reductions to the average arrests, average charges, and average felony charges of LEAD participants. This shows a correlation between those in the program and reduced recidivism but is based on an evaluation that looks only at those in the program and not an evaluation that includes a control group. The findings do not show that LEAD caused the positive changes, just that participants recorded an average change in recidivism outcomes. A future evaluation will attempt to establish causation between elements of the program and reductions in recidivism by including program participants and a control group.

The next component of the LEAD evaluation is due in December 2014. This installment will use a control group to attempt to establish causation between LEAD program activities and changes to participants' recidivism – measured as arrests, charges, and felony charges. In the spring of 2015, a component of the evaluation that addresses Specific Aim 2 will test the effectiveness of the LEAD program compared to a control condition of using the criminal justice system in terms of utilization and associated costs. A final element of the evaluation is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2015. This part, looking at Specific Aim 3, will test within-subject differences on self-reported psychosocial and housing variables and other quality of life variables.

<i>Tab</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Option</i>	<i>Version</i>
97	1	B	1

Budget Action Transactions

Budget Action Title: Move \$415,000 of GSF in 2015 from a Finance General reserve to the Human Services Department budget for LEAD

#	Transaction Description	Position Title	Number of Positions	FTE	Dept	BCL or Revenue Source	Summit Code	Fund	Year	Revenue Amount	Expenditure Amount
1	Reduce Finance General Reserve for LEAD program				FG	Reserves	2QD00	00100	2015		(\$415,000)
2	Increase GSF support to HSD for LEAD program				FG	Human Services Operating Fund	Q5971620	00100	2015		\$415,000
3	Increase revenue to HSD for LEAD program				HSD	General Subfund Support	587001	16200	2015	\$415,000	
4	Increase appropriation for LEAD program				HSD	Community Support and Assistance	H30ET	16200	2015		\$415,000