



# MEMORANDUM

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**To:** Mayor and Members of the City Council

**From:** Rich Olson, City Manager

**Date:** November 22, 2017

**Subj:** Consideration –Application to National PAL Mentoring Grant as a  
“Subgrant” Award Recipient for FY 2017-2018

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## ***BACKGROUND:***

The Elizabeth City Police Department continues to seek grant funding opportunities through outside sources for the purpose of enhancing operations and furthering the department’s mission of the pursuit of excellence. Earlier this year, the Elizabeth City Police Department discovered that the National PAL Program had received \$4,000,000 toward the implementation of mentoring programs nationwide; and the funding was awarded to them through the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. This grant opportunity allows for positive youth development activities, through local PAL chapters, to provide greater opportunities for individual/group mentoring and youth academic achievement. The mission of this program is to increase participating youth’s understanding of personal, community, and interpersonal safety and increase their perception of social support.

The Elizabeth City Police Department applied for - and was awarded - \$18,000 for the National PAL Mentoring Grant in the federal FY 2016-2017. With the funding, the Police Department was able to hire a part-time (seasonal) grant activities manager and offer youth-centered activities to approximately 20 local youth during the spring, summer, and fall months of 2017. The FY 2016-2017 funded grant will end November 30, 2017; however, the department learned last week that the grant will now continue through FY 2017-2018. The department would like to re-apply in order to continue the program that has already been implemented, and also seek to increase the youth served from 20 to 30, for a total of \$27,000 in grant funding requested. There is no City match needed for this grant and there will be no budget impact in FY 2017- 2018 or FY 2018-2019.

## ***ANALYSIS:***

The Police Department was successful in receiving the PAL Mentoring Grant as a subgrant award recipient for federal FY 2016-2017 in the amount of \$18,000. Through this award, the department offered events, such as educational trips, which provided great opportunities for our local youth to experience. The

program was highly successful, and the Elizabeth City Police Department is seeking to continue to the program during federal FY 2017-2018. Thirty (30) youth will be targeted for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. The PAL Mentoring Program's goal is improve outcomes, such as academic performance and reduced school drop-out rates for at-risk, high-risk, or underserved youth; and reduce negative outcomes, including juvenile delinquency and gang participation, through mentoring. To achieve this goal, program objectives focus on supporting qualified programs to provide quality mentoring services tailored to the needs of the identified youth target population and to align grantees' mentoring programs with research and evidence on effective mentoring practices.

The grant opening date is December 1, 2017; and its closing date is November 30, 2018. There is no approved spending after this date.

***FINANCIAL:***

The Finance Committee discussed this matter during their November 22, 2017 meeting. Upon motion made by Councilman Horton, seconded by Councilman Donnelly, the Committee unanimously recommended approval by the City Council.

***RECOMMENDATION:***

By motion, authorize the Elizabeth City Police Department to make application for consideration as a subgrant award recipient of the National PAL Mentoring Grant in the total amount of \$27,000 to continue its service to the community's youth.