



Stimulus Funds to Purchase ShotSpotter Gunshot Location System (GLS): Weed and Seed Program

Program Description and Funding Level

The Weed and Seed program aims to prevent, control, and reduce violent crime, drug abuse, and gang activity in designated high-crime neighborhoods across the country. In FY 2009, we expect there to be \$20 million available nationwide for all Weed and Seed sites.

Eligible Use of Funds

The strategy involves a two-pronged approach: law enforcement agencies and prosecutors cooperate in "weeding out" violent criminals and drug abusers and public agencies and community-based private organizations collaborate to "seed" much-needed human services, including prevention, intervention, treatment, and neighborhood restoration programs. A community-oriented policing component bridges the weeding and seeding elements. Under the law enforcement priority, Weed and Seed sites may use grant funds to acquire gunshot location systems to "weed out" gun violence.

How Funds Are Allocated and Distributed

The program has not opened up competition for new Weed and Seed sites. Therefore, only currently designated sites are eligible. Funds are distributed through a competitive process, with each site applying for continuation funds. Funding can be used for a host of purposes that are not limited to crime fighting and prevention. Competitive applications will balance both crime fighting and prevention.

Match

There is no local matching requirement for the Weed and Seed program. However, local matches are encouraged and viewed favorably.

How to Access These Funds for Your Community

1. Contact the local law enforcement agency that is interested in acquiring a ShotSpotter (GLS)
2. Determine whether that agency provides law enforcement assistance for an *existing* Weed and Seed site (may require coordination with the local U.S. Attorney's Office).
3. Make sure that the site has applied or anticipates applying for funding as a continuation site (the FY 2009 application process closed in January).
4. Be sure that the local law enforcement agency in charge of program coordination makes sure that acquisition of a gunshot detection system is central to their crime fighting priority and includes a budget line item for that in the grant application's proposed budget.