



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council Meeting of December 14, 2021

DATE: December 14, 2021
TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager
FROM: Mike Markle, Chief of Police
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Approval to submit a grant application to the State of Texas, Criminal Justice Division for funding available under the Body-Worn Camera Grant Program FY2022

CAPTION:

Resolution authorizing submission of a grant application for \$75,000.00 to the State of Texas under the Body-Worn Camera Grant Program with City cash match of \$25,000.00 to equip Corpus Christi Police Department police officers with body-worn cameras.

SUMMARY:

Funding is available from the State of Texas, Criminal Justice Division, under the Body-Worn Camera Grant Program FY 2022 to equip police officers in Texas with body-worn cameras.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

In 2019, Corpus Christi Police Department (CCPD) invested in the Panasonic body-worn camera and in-car camera system. CCPD currently has 224 body-worn cameras issued to field officers.

CCPD's current body-worn camera batteries have begun to lose their ability to hold a charge due to age. Since the body-worn cameras each have an internal battery, the body-worn camera units must be shipped to the manufacturer for battery replacement at a cost of \$200.00 per unit. This causes CCPD to continually spend funds shipping the units for battery changeouts. It also risks the chance of having batteries fail before or during critical incidents when body-worn cameras are needed.

Purchasing new cameras for the CCPD will help ensure that they do not have equipment failures during critical incidents and will help reduce costs associated with shipping camera units to the manufacturer for battery replacements. As part of this process, the cameras that are at end of their useful lives will be identified and replaced with the new ones provided for by the grant. The City's Information Technology (IT) department actively works with CCPD's Operations Division to maintain a working cache of body-worn cameras and will continue to do so with the new supply. Over the next three years 250 body-worn cameras will be replaced as they fail.

Funding is available to purchase body-worn cameras and supplies for officers who engage in traffic or highway patrol or otherwise regularly detain or stop motor vehicles, or primary responders who respond directly to calls for assistance from the public.

Funding from the State will provide for the following:

1. Body Worn Cameras (59)
2. Magnetic mounts for cameras on officers (100)
3. Five-year warranty on 59 body worn cameras
4. Eight bay charging dock to charge cameras (10)
5. In car synch dock for officers to download camera footage in vehicle (41)

A 25% cash match of \$25,000.00 is available from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund.

The grant period is March 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023.

This project will ensure that CCPD continues to update the cameras with the latest technology available from Panasonic through proactive purchasing and the replacement of body-worn cameras that will begin to fail due to age.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternative is not to submit the grant and find available funding within the General Fund to begin replacement of the body worn cameras as they fail.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The Body-Worn Camera Grant in the amount of \$75,000.00 will increase the Police Grants Revenue for the Body-Worn Camera Program with a cash transfer of \$25,000.00 from the FY 2022 Law Enforcement Trust Fund to the Police Grants Fund for the City cash match.

Funding Detail

Fund 1074
Organization/Activity: 826100F
Mission Element: 151
Project # (CIP Only): N/A
Account: 520090 - Minor Tools and Equipment
Amount: \$25,000.00

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends submission of the grant application, as presented.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Resolution