



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council meeting of September 2, 2025

DATE: September 2, 2025

TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager

FROM: Mike Markle, Chief of Police
mikema@cctexas.com
(361) 886-2601

Approval to accept and appropriate a grant from the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority to continue the activities of the Auto Theft Task Force in the Corpus Christi Police Department

CAPTION:

Ordinance authorizing acceptance of a grant from the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority in the amount of \$894,028.00 with a City cash match of \$191,860.00 and an in-kind match of \$770,606.00 for a total project cost of \$1,856,494.00 for salaries, overtime, and fringe benefits for four sworn officers and three civilians and for operational needs for the Corpus Christi Police Department's Auto Theft Task Force; designating the Chief of Police as the authorized official, the Deputy Chief of Police of the Criminal Investigations Division as Program Director, and the Director of Finance, or Director of Finance's designee, as financial officer for this grant; and authorizing four sworn and three civilian positions that currently exist; appropriating FY 2025 funding of \$894,028.00 in the Police Grants Fund and, subject to FY 2026 budget approval, appropriating the necessary remaining cash match and in-kind match.

SUMMARY:

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of a grant and appropriation of the grant funds from the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority for the Corpus Christi Police Department (CCPD). The grant funds will go toward salaries, overtime, and fringe benefits for four sworn officers and three civilians, and for operational needs for the Corpus Christi Police Department's Auto Theft Task Force's program. It also designates the Chief of Police as the authorized official, the Deputy Chief of Police of the Criminal Investigations Division as Program Director, and the Director of Finance, or Director of Finance's designee as financial officer for this grant.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The City of Corpus Christi has been awarded funding from the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority (MVCPA) to continue the Motor Vehicle Theft Unit in the Police Department. The MVCPA was established in 1991 due to rising auto thefts and is funded through a monthly fee of \$4 on every insured vehicle in Texas charged to insurance companies who provide vehicle insurance coverage in Texas. The Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts collects the fee. The amount awarded The Unit focuses not only on detection and apprehension of stolen and burglarized vehicles, but also on the automotive businesses in the City and County to reduce the sale of stolen vehicles and parts.

There is an extensive public awareness campaign that is a requirement of the grant which includes public outreach events, media interviews, presentations to citizens, sign and bus wrap campaigns, social media campaigns, and other crime prevention initiatives. The purpose is to reduce victim-assisted auto crime such as leaving cars unlocked, keys in vehicles, and valuables inside the vehicle (e.g., guns, purses, laptops, etc.).

The grant provides funds for one Lieutenant to supervise the Auto Theft Task Force unit, consisting of three additional sworn CCPD officers and three civilians (seven total employees). As part of the Auto Theft Task Force unit, the civilians conduct data analysis, crime analysis, manage the required public awareness campaign, provide customer service to victims of auto crime, and maintain grant paperwork.

The General Fund match is for vehicle maintenance on nine vehicles, unit operating expenses, training, and for salary, benefits, and overtime of four additional sworn officers who currently work in the auto theft and auto burglary bureau. In-kind contributions include a copy machine and office space.

The grant requires designating the Chief of Police as the authorized official, the Deputy Chief of Police of the Criminal Investigations Division as Program Director, and the Director of Finance, or the Director of Finance's Designee, as financial officer for this grant.

Because these funds are neither Federal nor State but from an insurance fee, there is no set time limit for the grant to end. The City must reapply each year because the MVCPA requires a very close review of performance and the grantee's ability to utilize the funds efficiently. This year's grant period is from September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026. The City has received the grant for 26 years. Last year, the City received \$864,514.00 from this grant.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternative is not to accept the grant. However, if the grant is not accepted and appropriated, funding for the Auto Theft Task Force will be lost or reduced. This will result in less law enforcement activities being put toward decreasing auto thefts in and around Corpus Christi. It will also mean that it is less likely that the City will receive this grant in the future.

FISCAL IMPACT

The FY 2025 fiscal impact will be an appropriation into the Police grants fund in the amount of \$74,502.33. The City cash match for FY 2025 is in the amount of \$15,988.33 from the FY 2025 Police Department General Fund. The City's in-kind match for FY 2025 is \$64,217.17 from the FY 2025 Police Department General Fund.

The FY 2026 fiscal impact will be an appropriation into the Police grants fund in the amount of \$819,525.67. The City cash match for FY 2026 will be in the amount of \$175,871.67 and is included in the proposed FY 2026 Police Department General Fund budget. The City's in-kind match for FY 2026 will be in the amount of \$706,388.83 and is included in the proposed FY 2026 Police Department General Fund budget.

Funding Detail:

FY 2025

Fund:	1061 Police Grants Fund
Organization/Activity:	89
Department:	29
Project # (CIP Only):	N/A
Account:	Various
Amount:	\$74,502.33

Fund: 1020 General Fund
Organization/Activity: Criminal Investigation Division 11720
Department: 29
Project #: **(CIP Only):** N/A
Account: Various
Amount: \$15,988.33

Fund: 1020 General Fund
Organization/Activity: 11721
Project #: **(CIP Only):** N/A
Account: Various
Amount: \$64,217.17

FY 2026

Fund: 1061 Police Grants Fund
Organization/Activity: 89
Department: 29
Project #: **(CIP Only):** N/A
Account: Various
Amount: \$819,525.67

Fund: 1020 General Fund
Organization/Activity: Criminal Investigation Division 11720
Department: 29
Project #: **(CIP Only):** N/A
Accounts: Various
Amount: \$175,871.67

Fund: 1020 General Fund
Organization/Activity: Auto Theft 11721
Project #: **(CIP Only):** N/A
Account: Various
Amount: \$706,388.83

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommend accepting and appropriating the grant award and designating the Chief of Police as the authorized official, the Deputy Chief of Police of the Criminal Investigations Division as Program Director, and the Director of Finance, or Director of Finance's designee as financial officer for this grant, and authorizing four sworn and three civilian positions that currently exist; and appropriating \$894,028.00 in the Police Grants Fund, as presented.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Grant award letter