



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

First Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting September 8, 2020
Second Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting September 15, 2020

DATE: August 10, 2020
TO: Peter Zanoni, City Manager
FROM: Mike Markle, Chief of Police
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Accepting and appropriating the FY 2021 Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention Grant to continue the Motor Vehicle Theft Unit in the Police Department

CAPTION:

Ordinance authorizing the acceptance of a grant from the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority in an amount of \$395,356.00 to continue the Motor Vehicle Theft Unit activities in the Police Department with a City cash match of \$715,235.00 to fund three sworn officers and two civilians, and an in-kind match of office and equipment space \$94,660.00 for a total City contribution of \$809,895.00 and a total budget of \$1,205,251.00; and appropriating \$395,356.00 in the Police Grants Fund.

SUMMARY:

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of a grant and appropriation of funds from the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority for salary, benefits, and overtime of three sworn officers, two civilians, and continuance of the public information and education program. The City must apply for these funds each year.

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 \$2 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 unit focuses not only on detection and apprehension of stolen and burglarized vehicles, but also on the salvage yards 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 crime prevention programs focusing on reducing auto thefts. The public awareness campaign will include advertising on billboards and bench buses.

The grant provides funds for one Lieutenant to supervise the Unit, two sworn CCPD officers,

and two civilians. The civilians conduct data analysis, crime analysis, manage the required public awareness campaign, and maintain grant paperwork. In-kind contributions include copy machine and office space. The General Fund cash match is for three sworn officers' and two civilian personnel salary, benefits, and overtime who currently work in the auto theft and auto burglary bureau. The City's cash match is also used for vehicle maintenance for nine vehicles as part of the Auto Theft Task Force.

Because these funds are neither Federal nor State but collected from an insurance fee, there is no set time limit for the grant to end; other grantees have been continuously funded for 20 plus years. 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. The grant amount has been slowly reducing in amount over the past five years. The grant award period is September 1, 2020 – August 31, 2021. The City has received the grant for 20 years.

ALTERNATIVES:

If the grant is not accepted, the Police Department will have to seek other grants and funding resources in order to continue related activities.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Police General Fund will provide a cash match of \$746,168 for sworn officers' salaries/benefits and in-kind contribution of \$94,660.00. The City cash match in an amount of \$62,180 for FY20 is available for the remainder of FY20 from the Police Department General Fund and an amount of \$683,988 is included in the proposed budget for the FY21 Police Department General Fund.

Funding Detail:

Fund:	1020 General Fund
Organization/Activity:	Criminal Investigation Division 11720 Criminal Investigation Division Auto Theft 11721
Project # (CIP Only):	
Account:	510100

Comments:

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends accepting and appropriating the item.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Grant award document