



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council Meeting July 22, 2025

DATE: July 22, 2025

TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager

FROM: Brandon Wade, Fire Chief
brandonw@cctexas.com
(361) 826-3900

Mike Markle, Chief of Police
mikema@cctexas.com
(361) 886-2604

Sergio Villasana, Director of Finance & Procurement
Sergiov2@cctexas.com
(361) 826-3227

<p>Authorization to accept two grants from the Office of the Governor, Public Safety Office – Homeland Security Grant Division</p>

CAPTION:

Resolution authorizing acceptance of two grants totaling \$215,009.32 from the Texas Office of the Governor – Homeland Security Grant Division for the State Homeland Security Program, with one grant in the amount of \$109,507.75 for funding for the purchase of one additional 2025 Ford F-450 Police response vehicle and one grant in the amount of \$105,501.57 for funding for the purchase of one replacement Spartan Robot for the Corpus Christi Police Department's Bomb Squad.

SUMMARY:

This Resolution authorizes the acceptance and appropriation of two grants totaling \$215,009.32 from the Homeland Security Grant Program's (HSGP) State Homeland Security Program (SHSP). The grant funds will be used to by one additional 2025 Ford F-450 Police response vehicle and one replacement Spartan Robot for the Corus Christi Police Department's Bomb Squad.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

On December 10, 2024, the City Council authorized the acceptance of two grants totaling \$215,009.32 from the Texas Office of the Governor-Homeland Security Grant Division for the State Homeland Security Program for funding for the purchase of one additional 2025 Ford F-450 Police response vehicle and one replacement Spartan Robot for the Corpus Christi Police Department's Bomb Squad; and appropriating \$215,009.32 in the FY 2025 Fire Grants Fund.

Subsequent to City Council's authorization, the City received notice from the granting agency that in order fully comply with the two grant's requirements, the City would have to provide the granting

agency with a Resolution showing the grants funds broken out into the two individual grants' amounts (\$105,501.57 and \$109,507.75, respectively) instead of the combined total of the two grants (\$215,009.32). As a result, staff is bringing this item back to City Council for approval of this Resolution in order to fully comply with the granting agency's requirements for these two grants.

The HSGP is a federal grant program that is managed by the State, through the office of the Governor, and is administered through the Coastal Bend Council of Governments (CBCOG). The equipment purchased using these grant funds will support local and state efforts to prevent terroristic and catastrophic events and to prepare for the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk to the security of Texas citizens. Since 2002, the United States Department of Homeland Security has issued grants to the State of Texas, who in turn awards the grants to municipalities through its State Homeland Security Program.

The grant funding will be used to purchase one additional 2025 Ford F-450 Police response vehicle in the amount of \$109,507.75 for the Corpus Christi Police Department's (CCPD) Bomb Squad. The additional response vehicle will be used to transport Bomb Squad personnel and equipment that is used for screening, detection and disposal of improvised explosive devices (IED). CCPD's Bomb Squad is comprised of five members. Currently, CCPD's Bomb Squad has two response vehicles. However, the two current Bomb Squad vehicles do not have the capacity to carry all the gear needed to screen, detect and dispose of IEDs. As a result, the Bomb Squad is forced to use reserve patrol vehicles to transport additional equipment and personnel to an incident. The additional Bomb Squad vehicle will allow CCPD's Bomb Squad to transport all five Bomb Squad personnel and all necessary equipment to an incident without having to use reserve patrol vehicles. This will greatly improve the efficiency and safety of CCPD's Bomb Squad operations.

The remaining grant funding of \$105,501.57 will be used to purchase replacement Spartan Robot that will be used by CCPD's Bomb Squad. CCPD currently has three Spartan Robots. The Spartan Robot purchased with these grant funds will replace one of the current Spartan Robots that is 18 years old and non-operational. The Spartan Robots serve as an alternative to sending Bomb Squad personnel into scenes that contain an improvised explosive device (IED). The Spartan Robot is controlled remotely by a bomb squad member and is equipped with cameras and an arm that make it capable of dismantling IEDs. The Spartan Robot's capabilities limit exposure to bomb squad personnel in dangerous areas.

For FY 2025, the Corpus Christi Fire Department (CCFD) is recommending acceptance of the two grants to fund the following projects, as seen in the table below.

Item	Description	Funding
CCPD Bomb Detection Equipment	The CCPD bomb detection equipment will consist of one replacement robot that serves as an alternative to personnel when approaching explosive devices.	\$105,501.57
Bomb Squad Response Vehicle	The Bomb Squad response vehicle is an additional response vehicle that will be used to transport Bomb Squad equipment that is used to screen, detect, and dispose of explosive devices.	\$109,507.75
TOTAL FUNDING		\$215,009.32

The City has received funds from this grant for the past 22 years. Last year, the City received \$181,346.31 from this grant.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternative is not to approve this item and therefore not accept the two grants. If this occurs, staff will have to find other funding sources for the critical equipment for the Corpus Christi Police Department. This funding is not included in the FY 2025 General Fund budget. If the funding is not awarded through this grant, the City will need to identify alternate funding in order to purchase the equipment.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The FY 2025 fiscal impact is in the amount of \$215,009.32 into the Fire Grants Fund.

Funding Detail:

Fund: 1062 Fire Grants
Organization/Activity: 821275F, 821276F
Department Number: 10 Fire Department
Project # (CIP Only): N/A
Account: 520090 Minor Tools & Equipment
Amount: \$105,501.07

Fund: 1062 Fire Grants
Organization/Activity: 821276F
Department Number: 10 Fire Department
Project # (CIP Only): N/A
Account: 550020 Vehicles & Machinery
Amount: \$109,507.75

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends authorizing the acceptance of two grants totaling \$215,009.32 from the Texas Office of the Governor – Homeland Security Grant Division for the State Homeland Security Program, with one grant in the amount of \$109,507.75 for funding for the purchase of one additional 2025 Ford F-450 Police response vehicle and one grant in the amount of \$105,501.57 for funding for the purchase of one replacement Spartan Robot for the Corpus Christi Police Department's Bomb Squad.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Resolution