



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action item for the City Council meeting of August 22, 2023

DATE: August 22, 2023
TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager
FROM: Mike Markle, Chief of Police
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Approval to submit a grant application to the U. S. Department of Justice for the FY 2023 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program and enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Nueces County to split grant funds if awarded

CAPTION:

Resolution authorizing the submission of a grant application for the FY 2023 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program in the amount of \$227,389.00 for the Corpus Christi Police Department; and authorizing an Interlocal Agreement with Nueces County for the distribution of Justice Assistance Grant Program funds in the amount of \$113,694.00 to Nueces County and \$113,695.00 to the City of Corpus Christi should the grant be awarded.

SUMMARY:

This is a resolution to authorize the submission of a grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice for the FY 2023 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program and also to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Nueces County to split the grant funds between the City and Nueces County should the grant be awarded.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The JAG funds are based on Part 1 violent crimes reported by the City and County. The City reports a greater amount of Part 1 crimes than the Nueces County, yet Nueces County is responsible for providing criminal justice services such as incarceration and prosecution for the City. Because of this, the City has agreed to split the funds with Nueces County. The agreement between the City and Nueces County to split the funds received by the City from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program has been in place since 2008.

Under the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG), Corpus Christi was declared a disparate jurisdiction in 2008 by the Department of Justice. Jurisdictions certified as disparate must submit a joint application for the aggregate of funds allocated to them, specifying the amount of the funds that are to be distributed to each of the units of local government and the purposes for which the funds will be used.

When beginning the JAG application process, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) must be completed, signed, and faxed to the United State Department of Justice's Office of Justice

Programs, indicating who will serve as the applicant/fiscal agent for the joint funds. The City and Nueces County have agreed that the City will serve as the lead agency, as has been the case in the past. The City and Nueces County agree to enter into a new interlocal agreement each year when beginning the JAG application process. The interlocal agreements are specific to each JAG grant's particular requirements. Nueces County Commissioners Court approved the interlocal agreement on August 9, 2023.

The City will use the funds received from this grant to partially fund year two of the five-year lease agreement between the City and Axon Enterprise, Inc. for 445 tasers, supplies, software licenses, and training for the Corpus Christi Police Department. The five-year lease agreement between the City and Axon Enterprise, Inc. was approved by the City Council on September 13, 2022. The City used a combination of funds from the Crime Control and Prevention District and the FY 2022 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant to fund the first year of the five-year lease agreement between the City and Axon Enterprise, Inc.

With this award, the program has provided a total of \$6,375,658.00 in grant funds to the City since the program began in 1996. In previous years, the funds have been used to purchase vehicles and other law enforcement equipment. Last year, the City received \$206,608 from this grant.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternative is not to apply for the grant which will result in the City not receiving the potential grant funds in order to partially fund year two of the five-year lease agreement between the City and Axion Enterprise, Inc. It will also result in the City not entering into the interlocal agreement with Nueces County in order for the City split the funds received from the grant with Nueces County for their work in providing criminal justice services such as incarceration and prosecution for the City.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no match required by the City.

Funding Detail:

Fund:	1061 Police Grants Fund
Department:	29
Project # (CIP Only):	N/A
Account:	520090 Minor Tools and Equipment

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends submitting the grant application and entering into the interlocal agreement with Nueces County, as presented.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Interlocal agreement with Nueces County