

#### AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Future item for the City Council meeting of June 9, 2015 Action Item for the City Council meeting of June 16, 2015

**DATE:** May 27, 2015

**TO**: Ronald L. Olson, City Manager

**FROM**: Mike Markle, Interim Chief of Police

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886-2604

Approval to submit a grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice for funding eligible under the FY 2015 Body-Worn Camera Pilot Implementation Program

### **CAPTION:**

Resolution authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to submit a grant application in the amount of \$125,000 to the U.S. Department of Justice for funding eligible under the FY 2015 Body-Worn Camera Pilot Implementation Program with City in-kind match of \$50,000 and cash match of \$75,000 from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund for a total project cost of \$250,000.

## **PURPOSE:**

Request grant funding to enhance the existing 84 body worn cameras which were provided to the Police Department through the Nueces County District Attorney's office in 2014.

#### **BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:**

Law enforcement agencies across the country and worldwide are using body-worn cameras (BWCs) as a promising tool to improve law enforcement interactions with the public. BWCs can provide a visual and audio record of interactions. Some preliminary evidence indicates that the presence of BWCs helps strengthen accountability and transparency, and can assist in deescalating conflicts, resulting in more constructive encounters between the police and members of the community. This competitive solicitation is for law enforcement agencies seeking to **establish or enhance** BWC Policy and Implementation Programs (PIP).

The City is applying under CATEGORY 4: BWC PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT. This funding category seeks to assist agencies with existing BWC programs and established BWC policies and practices that want to expand their program to more officers. Funds under Category 4 should be used for cameras and the associated hardware, software licenses, and contractual agreements directly related to program expansion. Applicants may request no more than \$250,000 under this category. Applicants may satisfy the 50% match requirement with either cash contributions or in-kind contributions of goods or services that are directly related to the purpose for which the grant was awarded.

The grant funds will provide for a maximum of 100 body cameras, storage, software, and licenses. The cash match will be provided by the Law Enforcement Trust Fund. The in-kind contribution is for a percentage of time the four employees currently working with the body camera system. Estimated annual maintenance cost after the warranty period is \$7,000.

ALTERNATIVES:				
None				
OTHER CONSIDERATION	ONS:			
None				
CONFORMITY TO CITY	Y POLICY:			
Conforms to all city police	cies.			
EMERGENCY / NON-E	MERGENCY:			
Non-emergency				
DEPARTMENTAL CLE	ARANCES:			
Finance Legal				
FINANCIAL IMPACT:				
X Operating	Revenue	Capital	□ Not applicable	
Fiscal Year: 2015- 2016	Project to Date Expenditures (CIP only)	Current Year	Future Years	TOTALS
Line Item Budget				
Encumbered /				
Expended Amount				
This item			\$75,000	\$75,000
BALANCE			\$75,000	\$75,000

Fund(s): Police Grants Fund

## Comments:

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends submitting the application.

# **LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**