



## AGENDA MEMORANDUM

First Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting on December 6, 2022  
Second Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting on December 20, 2022

**DATE:** December 6, 2022  
**TO:** Peter Zanoni, City Manager  
**FROM:** Mike Markle, Chief of Police  
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**Accepting and appropriating the Victims of Crime Act Grant (VOCA) within the Corpus Christi Police Department**

**CAPTION:**

Ordinance authorizing the acceptance of a grant in an amount of \$281,193.79 from the State of Texas, Criminal Justice Division for the Victims of Crime Act Grant with an in-kind match of \$18,080.00 for the Corpus Christi Police Department's Victim Assistance Program; and appropriating \$281,193.79 in the Police Grants Fund; and authorizing five full-time positions.

**SUMMARY:**

Funding is available from the State of Texas, Criminal Justice Division, to continue the Victims Assistance Program within the Corpus Christi Police Department. The Victim Assistance Program provides funds to projects with the primary mission of providing direct services to victims of crime.

**BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:**

The Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant provides support for the Corpus Christi Police Department's (CCPD) Victim Assistance Program. The Program provides assistance to victims and family members who have experienced direct victimization. The goal of the Program is to lessen the short- and long-term trauma experienced as a direct result of victimization. Victims and their family members are provided with information, reassurance, and guidance for resolving problems and referrals to other social service agencies.

The grant covers the salaries and benefits for four Victim Case Managers, one receptionist, equipment, supplies, and training travel. The four case managers provide services to victims including information and referral, criminal justice support and case information, and assistance with filing for benefits available through the Crime Victims' Compensation which is under the Texas Crime Victims Compensation Act.

Overall, the work of the case manager work includes informing victims of their rights as victims, advocating on victims' behalf with other agencies and within the criminal justice system, and providing program participants transportation to shelter or to court.

Primary and secondary victims of crime are assisted in an effort to stabilize their lives after

victimization and to help victims understand and participate in the criminal justice system. The Program also works to provide victims of crime with a measure of safety and security. The case managers work closely through coalitions and with other agencies in an ongoing effort to identify needs and to improve the quality and continuity of services to victims in the community.

The State of Texas provides \$225,521.03 for the salaries and benefits of four Victim Case Managers and one receptionist, and \$11,097.76 in office supplies, postage, and cellular phones, and \$44,575.00 in training travel. Volunteer hours contribute \$18,080.00 as the in-kind contribution. The volunteer hours will be carried out by Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi (TAMUCC) students. This program provides the TAMUCC students with qualifying internship hours. The funding is not on a declining percentage or ending funding cycle. The grant period will be October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023.

The City has received this grant for the past 23 years. However, this year, the State of Texas has combined this VOCA grant with the VOCA Outreach grant to bringing the grants together under the same funding source. Last year the City was awarded \$161,606.73 for this VOCA grant and \$119,587.06 for the VOCA Outreach grant, which totals the amount being received this year of \$281,193.79.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The alternative is not to accept the grant and discontinue the Victim Assistance Program, which will result in less services being provided to persons who have experienced direct victimization.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The fiscal impact for FY 2023 is accepting and appropriating an amount of \$281,193.79 to the Police Grants Fund.

**Funding Detail:**

Fund:	1061
Organization/Activity:	842023F
Mission Element:	152
Project # (CIP Only):	N/A
Account:	510100 Salaries and Wages
	511000 Retirement
	513000 Group insurance benefits
	513001 Other employee benefits
	548120 Self Insurance Allocation
Amount:	\$281,193.79

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends accepting the award and appropriating the funds, as presented.

**LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

Statement of grant award