DATE: April 29, 2025

TO: Peter Zanoni, City Manager

FROM: Mike Markle, Chief of Police
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              (361) 886-2603

Acceptance of a Grant for the Operation Stonegarden Program for the Corpus Christi Police Department

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CAPTION:

Ordinance authorizing the acceptance of a grant totaling $247,669.00 from the State of Texas Governor's Homeland Security Grants Division for Operation Stonegarden (drug and human trafficking) for overtime, fringe benefits, one replacement Chevy Tahoe police vehicle, and fuel/maintenance; and appropriating $247,669.00 in the Police Grants Fund.

SUMMARY

The State of Texas Governor's Homeland Security Grants Division is awarding the City grant funds for overtime, fringe benefits, one replacement Chevy Tahoe police vehicle, and fuel/maintenance for Operation Stonegarden. Funding is available and eligible for Operation Stonegarden under the Department of Homeland Security Grant Program.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

Corpus Christi was identified as an integral part of the U.S. Border Patrol's strategy to enhance cooperation and coordination among numerous agencies in a joint mission to combat drug and human trafficking. This grant's funding will be used to enhance law enforcement efforts along routes of ingress and egress, including coastal waterways, in the Corpus Christi region.

The Corpus Christi Police Department's (CCPD) participation in Operation Stonegarden (OPSG) will consist of combating drug and human trafficking. This will be achieved by establishing a substantial probability of apprehension through improved enforcement, improved rapid mobility, and intelligence-driven resource deployments. Additionally, CCPD will promote an environment of collaborative enforcement efforts with multiple agencies to assist in the stated mission of OPSG.

More specifically, CCPD will conduct interdiction operations individually and in conjunction with federal, state, and local partners. The operations will be focused along routes of ingress and egress, both on state and local highways, to include SH44, SH77, SH181. The operations also will take place along routes of ingress and egress from the extensive coastal waterways surrounding Corpus Christi

The OPSG grant will pay for overtime, fringe benefits, one replacement Chevy Tahoe police vehicle, and fuel/maintenance. As part of the OPSG, CCPD's tactical operations teams will conduct approximately 1,780 hours of overtime. The replacement Chevy Tahoe police vehicle will be purchased to replace a Chevy Tahoe police vehicle that was previously used for the OPSG but had to be sent to auction for rust damage. The replacement Chevy Tahoe policy vehicle will also be used for OPSG.

The grant period for this grant is from March 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026. The City has received this grant for 13 years. Last year, the City received $228,898 from this grant.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternative is not to accept the grant, thereby providing less funds for overtime and fringe benefits for CCPD officers to be involved with the OPSG operations. However, this will prevent CCPD from launching operations and collaborating with other law enforcement agencies in order to combat drug and human trafficking in the region.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact for FY 2025 is accepting funds and appropriating $247,669.00 into the Police Grants Fund.

Funding Detail:
Fund:	Police Grants Fund 1061	
Activity:	TBD	
Dept:	29	
Org:	89	
Project # **(CIP Only):**	N/A	
Account:	510200 Overtime	$100,500.00
	511000 Retirement	$31,769.00
	520050 Fuel	$32,400.00
	520090 Minor Tools	$28,000.00
	550020 Vehicles	$55,000.00

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends accepting a grant from the State of Texas Governor's Homeland Security Grants Division for Operation Stonegarden (drug and human trafficking) for overtime, fringe benefits, one replacement Chevy Tahoe, and fuel/maintenance in the amount of $247,669.00; and appropriating $247,669.00 in the Police Grants Fund, as presented.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Grant award document