



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council meeting of April 8, 2025

DATE: April 8, 2025
TO: Peter Zanoni, City Manager
FROM: Mike Markle, Chief of Police
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Approval to submit a grant application to the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority to continue the Motor Vehicle Theft Unit in the Police Department

CAPTION:

Resolution authorizing the submission of a grant application for \$894,028.00 to the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority to continue the Motor Vehicle Theft Unit activities in the Corpus Christi Police Department with a City cash match of \$191,860.00 and an in-kind match of \$770,606.00 for a total amount of \$1,856,494.00, for salaries, overtime, and fringe benefits for four existing sworn officers and three existing civilians, and for operational needs for the Corpus Christi Police Department's Auto Theft Task Force; and designating several City staff members as designated officials for the grant; and appropriating \$894,028.00 in the Police Grants Fund.

SUMMARY:

This resolution authorizes submission of a grant to the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority for salary, benefits, overtime, and travel of four sworn officers and three civilians. The City must apply for these funds each year.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The City of Corpus Christi is applying for grant FY 2026 funding from the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority (MVCPA) to continue the motor vehicle theft unit in the Police Department. The MVCPA was established in 1991 due to rising auto thefts and is funded through a monthly fee of \$4 on every insured vehicle in Texas charged to insurance companies who provide vehicle insurance coverage in Texas. The Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts collects the fee.

The unit focuses not only on detection and apprehension of stolen and burglarized vehicles, but also on motor vehicle fraud and proactive policing of automotive businesses in the City and County to reduce the sale of stolen vehicles and parts. There is an extensive public awareness campaign that is a requirement of the grant which includes crime prevention programs focusing on reducing motor vehicle crime.

The grant provides funds for one Lieutenant to supervise the Auto Theft Task Force unit, consisting of three additional sworn CCPD officers and three civilians (seven total employees).

As part of the Auto Theft Task Force unit, the civilians conduct data analysis, crime analysis, manage the required public awareness campaign, provide customer service to victims of auto crime, and maintain grant paperwork.

The General Fund cash match is for vehicle maintenance on nine vehicles, unit operating expenses, a replacement vehicle, computer equipment, and training. In-kind contributions include a copy machine, office space, and the salaries, benefits, and overtime of four sworn officers and three civilians.

The grant requires designating the Chief of Police as the authorized official, the Deputy Chief of Police of the Criminal Investigations Division as Program Director, and the Director of Finance, or the Director of Finance's Designee, as financial officer for this grant.

The grant period for this grant is from September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026. The City has received this grant for 25 years. Last year, the City received \$864,614 from this grant.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternative is not to approve the submission of the application for this grant. However, if the grant application is not authorized, personnel and funding will be lost or reduced to continue the Motor Vehicle Theft Unit as these funds are not part of the FY 2025 General Fund Budget.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact in FY 2025 with the submission of the grant application. If grant funds are awarded, the fiscal impact will be for one month in FY 2025. The grant funds of \$894,028.00 will be appropriated to the FY 2026 Police Grants Fund. The City cash match of \$191,860.00 will be available in the FY 2026 Police Department General Fund. The in-kind match of \$770,606.00 will be available in the FY 2026 Police Department General Fund.

Funding Detail:

Fund: 1061
Organization/Activity: TBD
Project # (CIP Only): N/A
Account: 510100 = \$616,569
511000 = \$251,308
510200 = \$26,151
Amount: \$894,028.00

Fund: 1020
Organization/Activity: 11721
Project # (CIP Only): N/A
Account: 510100 = \$497,729
511000 = \$188,526
510200 = \$22,713
547012 = \$39,638
530160 = \$22,000
Amount: \$770,606.00

Fund: 1020 General Fund
Organization/Activity: Criminal Investigation Division 11720
Department: 29
Project #: N/A
Accounts: Various
Amount: \$191,860.00

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends submitting the grant application for \$894,028.00 to the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority to continue the Motor Vehicle Theft Unit activities in the Corpus Christi Police Department, as presented.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Resolution