



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

First Reading for the City Council Meeting of October 31, 2023
Second Reading for the City Council Meeting of November 28, 2023

DATE: October 31, 2023
TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager
FROM: Mike Markle, Chief of Police
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Accepting and Appropriating funds from the Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance for the FY 2023 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Award for the Corpus Christi Police Department

CAPTION:

Ordinance authorizing the acceptance of a grant from the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance, in an amount of \$227,389.00 for the FY 2023 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program for the Corpus Christi Police Department; and appropriating \$227,389.00 in the Police Grants Fund with \$113,694.00 to be distributed to Nueces County based on an interlocal agreement and the remaining \$113,695.00 to be used by the City.

SUMMARY:

This Ordinance authorizes the acceptance of a grant and appropriation of funds from the Bureau of Justice Assistance for the purchase of equipment to enhance law enforcement efforts.

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. The remaining three years of the five-year lease agreement between the City and Axon Enterprise, Inc. are expected to be paid by this grant as it is received each year.

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. The funds have previously been used to purchase vehicles and other law enforcement equipment. The 2022 JAG grant amount received was \$206,608 and was split in half between the City and the County, per the interlocal agreement.

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.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact in FY 2024 is the acceptance of grant funds in an amount of \$227,389.00 and appropriating \$227,389.00 to the Police Grants Fund. There is no required match funding. Due to an interlocal agreement \$113,694.00 will be distributed to Nueces County and the remaining \$113,695.00 to be used by the City for the purchase of tasers.

Funding Detail

Fund	1061 Police Grants Fund
Activity:	822840F
Department:	29
Project # (CIP Only):	N/A
Account:	520090
Amount:	\$227,389.00

RECOMMENDATION:

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

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Ordinance
Statement of grant award