



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council meeting of June 9, 2020

DATE: May 4, 2020
TO: Peter Zanoni, City Manager
FROM: Mike Markle, Chief of Police
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Approval to submit a grant application to the Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority to continue the Motor Vehicle Theft Unit in the Police Department

CAPTION:

Resolution authorizing the submission of a grant application in an amount of \$410,973.00 to the Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority to continue the Motor Vehicle Theft Unit activities in the Police Department with a City cash match of \$746,168.00 to fund three sworn officers and two civilians, an in-kind match of \$63,727.00 and a program income match of \$2,161.00 for a total budget of \$1,223,029.00.

SUMMARY:

This resolution authorizes submission of a grant to the Auto Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority of Texas for salary, benefits, and overtime of three sworn officers, two civilians, and a public information and education program. The City must apply for these funds each year.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The City of Corpus Christi is applying for grant FY 2021 funding from the Texas Automobile Theft Prevention Authority (ATPA) to continue the motor vehicle theft unit in the Police Department. The ATPA was established in 1991 due to rising auto thefts and is funded through a monthly fee of \$2 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 the salvage yards 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 auto thefts.

The grant provides funds for one Lieutenant to supervise the Unit, two sworn CCPD officers, and two civilians. The civilians conduct data analysis, crime analysis, manage the required public awareness campaign, and maintain grant paperwork. In-kind contributions include

copy machine and office space. Cash contributions from program income will cover travel expenses. The General Fund cash match is for three sworn officers' and two civilian officers' salary, benefits, and overtime who currently work in the auto theft and auto burglary bureau. The program income match comes from the inspections of trailers and vehicles that grant officers conduct twice monthly at the vehicle impound. Citizens can bring their vehicles and trailers for inspections and receive a certified state inspection report needed to obtain their license sticker for a fee of \$40.

Because these funds are neither Federal nor State but from an insurance fee, there is no set time limit for the grant to end; other grantees have been continuously funded for 20 plus years. The City must reapply each year because the ATPA requires a very close review of performance and the grantee's ability to utilize the funds efficiently. The grant period is September 1, 2020 – August 31, 2021. The City has received the grant for 20 years.

ALTERNATIVES:

If the grant application is not authorized funding will be lost or reduced to continue the Motor Vehicle Theft Unit.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact in FY 2020 with the submission of the grant application. If grant funds are awarded the fiscal impact will be in FY 2021. The grant funds of \$410,973 will be appropriated to the FY21 Police Grants Fund and the City cash match of \$746,168 will be available in the FY21 Police Department General Fund.

Funding Detail:

Fund: 1061 Police Grants Fund
Organization/Activity: Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention Grant Org
Project # (CIP Only):
Account: 510100

Fund: 1020 General Fund
Organization/Activity: Criminal Investigation Division 11720
Criminal Investigation Division Auto Theft 11721
Project # (CIP Only):
Account: 510100

Comments:

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends submitting the application.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Resolution