



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council meeting of June 22, 2021

DATE: June 22, 2021

TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager

FROM: David Blackmon, Interim 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 \$429,518.00 to the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority to continue the Motor Vehicle Theft Unit activities and support five full time employees' salaries, benefits, and overtime in the Police Department with a City cash match of \$746,177.00 and an in-kind match of \$73,149.00, for a total project cost of \$1,175,695.00.

SUMMARY:

This resolution authorizes submission of a grant to the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority for salary, benefits, and overtime of three sworn officers, two civilians, and a public information and education program.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The City of Corpus Christi is applying for grant FY 2022 funding from the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority (MVCPA) to continue the motor vehicle theft unit in the Police Department. The City must apply for these funds each year. The MVCPA was established in 1991 due to rising auto thefts and is funded through a monthly fee of \$2.00 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 vehicle theft unit focuses not only on detection and apprehension of stolen and burglarized vehicles, but also on salvage yards in the within the city and county to reduce the sale of stolen vehicles and parts. There also 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 a copy machine and office space. The General Fund cash match is for four sworn officers' salaries, benefits, and overtime. The four officers currently work in the auto theft and auto burglary bureau.

Because these funds are neither Federal nor State but from an insurance fee, there is no set time limit

for the grant to end. The City must reapply each year because the MVCPA requires a very close review of performance and the grantee's ability to utilize the funds efficiently. The grant period is September 1, 2021 – August 31, 2022. The City has received the grant for 21 years. The City received \$395,356.00 in FY 2021 and \$410,973.00 in FY 2020.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternative is not to approve the grant which will result in lost or reduced funding for the Motor Vehicle Theft Unit.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact in FY 2021 with the submission of the grant application. If grant funds are awarded, the fiscal impact will be for FY 2022. The grant funds of \$429,518.00 will be appropriated to the FY 2022 Police Grants Fund and the City cash match of \$746,177.00 will be available in the FY 2022 Police Department General Fund.

Funding Detail:

Fund: 1061 Police Grants Fund
Organization/Activity: Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention – 822325S
Project # (CIP Only): N/A
Account: 510100 Salaries and Wages
Amount:

Fund: 1020 General Fund
Organization/Activity: Criminal Investigation Division Auto Theft 11721
Project # (CIP Only): N/A
Account: 510100 Salaries and Wages
Amount:

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approving the authorization for staff to submit the application, as presented.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Resolution