



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 7

Agenda Date: May 15, 2025

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Police Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: William McManus, Chief of Police

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Office of National Drug Control Policy; 2025 HIDTA Grant Submission and Application

SUMMARY:

An ordinance authorizing the submission of a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) grant application and acceptance of funds upon award in an amount up to \$2,174,657 from the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) for the period of January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2026, as well as accepting additional grant funds up to 20% of the grant and authorizes a budget and personnel complement of 16 positions. This program includes \$500,490 funded from the General Fund, for a total program amount up to \$2,675,147. Future funding is contingent upon City Council approval of the annual budget.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) program, created by Congress with the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, aids Federal, State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies operating in areas determined to be critical drug-trafficking regions of the United States.

The grant program is administered by the Office of National Drug Control Police (ONDCP). There are currently 33 HIDTAs and HIDTA-designated counties located in all 50 states, as well as Puerto

Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia.

The HIDTA mission is to reduce drug trafficking in the San Antonio metropolitan area by instituting innovative narcotic enforcement investigations and the seizure of illegally obtained assets to reduce the profitability of narcotics trafficking.

Fiscal Year 2025 would be the 32nd year the City of San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) has been awarded this grant.

The San Antonio Police Department HIDTA Initiative consists of eight initiatives:

1. San Antonio Police Department HIDTA Task Force
2. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) HIDTA Task Force
3. Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) HIDTA Task Force
4. HIDTA Financial Crimes Initiative
5. South Texas HIDTA Intelligence Center
6. HIDTA Information Technology Initiative
7. Directors Administrative Support Element
8. HIDTA Support Services Initiative

The San Antonio HIDTA Task Force, DEA Task Force, and Homeland Security Investigations multi-agency task forces perform drug interdiction operations designed to enhance the Police Department's narcotics enforcement efforts. This program enables the unit to use task force concepts providing the capability to cross jurisdictional boundaries by employing law enforcement officers from local, state, and federal levels.

The South Texas HIDTA Financial Crimes Initiative is a cooperative partnership of Federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies encompassing Bexar and Travis counties in south and central Texas. The task force is co-located with the Drug Enforcement Administration, the San Antonio Police Department and Homeland Security Investigations in San Antonio and focuses on drug trafficking organizations, Transnational Criminal Organizations, terrorist organizations and money laundering organizations operating in the South Texas HIDTA.

The South Texas HIDTA Intelligence Center and Information Technology Initiatives has a two-fold responsibility. The Center responds to inquiries from San Antonio and surrounding counties' criminal justice agencies by providing timely intelligence reports gathered from databases of the respective member agencies. Secondly, the Center will act as a de-confliction unit for South Texas, which covers an area from Bexar County, south to Brownsville, and west to Del Rio.

The Directors Administrative Support Element is responsible for the overall administration and operation of the South Texas HIDTA program. Funds are utilized for the rental of facilities for the director's office. Funds will also be utilized for the rental of facilities in the HSI, Support Services, and Financial Crimes Initiatives.

The Support Service Initiative supports and manages the building space occupied by SAPD and training facilities. The training facility is managed by the HIDTA Executive Staff and is utilized by the HIDTA Task Force, SAPD, and surrounding Law Enforcement Agencies.

The 16 authorized positions are four Detective Investigators, two Sergeants, four Crime Analysts, three Sr. Crime Analysts, one Client Service Analyst, one Systems Administrator, and one Administrative Associate.

The table below provides the results of this program for calendar year 2024:

2024 Productivity	HIDTA
Arrested Persons	85
Search Warrants Executed	23
Guns Recovered	112
Marijuana Seized (grams)	14,859.30
Heroin Seized (grams)	2,206.00
Cocaine Seized (grams)	114,801.64
Methamphetamine Seized (grams)	279,065.80
Other Drugs Seized (grams)	39,402.50
Cash Seized	\$703,268
Gang Contacts/Blue Sheets	4

The acceptance of grant funds was approved by the Public Safety Committee on February 18, 2025, to move forward to the full City Council.

ISSUE:

The ordinance authorizes the submission of a grant application and acceptance upon award in an amount up to \$2,174,657 including the acceptance of additional grant funds up to a limit of 20% of the grant from the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) for a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA).

ALTERNATIVES:

This grant provides an opportunity for the City of San Antonio to enhance the Narcotics operations of the San Antonio Police Department.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This ordinance authorizes the submission of a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) grant application and acceptance of funds upon award in an amount up to \$2,174,657 from the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) for the period of January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2026, as well as accepting additional grant funds up to 20% of the grant and authorizes a budget and personnel complement of 16 positions. The program includes \$500,490 funded from the General Fund, for a total program amount up to \$2,675,147. Future funding is

contingent upon City Council approval of the annual budget.

The total proposed program budget of \$2,675,147 is divided into eight (8) related initiatives. The table below provides the budget by initiative and the number of positions associated with each function.

Program Name	Grant Budget	General Fund	Total	Positions
San Antonio Police Department HIDTA Task Force	\$823,522	\$435,891	\$1,259,413	6
Drug Enforcement Agency HIDTA Task Force	\$230,387	\$26,186	\$256,573	1
Homeland Security Investigation HIDTA Initiative	\$99,231	\$0	\$99,231	0
HIDTA Financial Crimes Initiative	\$51,889	\$0	\$51,889	0
South Texas HIDTA Intelligence Center	\$608,423	\$35,345	\$643,768	7
HIDTA Information Technology Initiative	\$186,618	\$3,068	\$189,686	2
Directors Administrative Support Element	\$95,179	\$0	\$95,176	0
HIDTA Support Service Initiative	\$79,408	\$0	\$79,408	0
TOTAL	\$2,174,657	\$500,490	\$2,675,147	16

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the submission and acceptance of funding upon award of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) grant.