



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Item Number: 4

Agenda Date: April 15, 2025

In Control: Public Safety Committee

DEPARTMENT: Police Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: William McManus, Chief of Police

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

FY 2026 Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority (MVCPA) Regional Auto Crimes Taskforce (ReACT) Grant

SUMMARY:

The San Antonio Police Department will provide the Public Safety Committee with a briefing on an application to the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority (MVCPA) for the grant year of September 1, 2025, to August 31, 2026. This ordinance authorizes a grant project total budget of \$5,533,693 funded by the grant funds of \$1,369,198; a cash match of \$517,143 from the City's General Fund, and \$105,689 from the National Insurance Crime Bureau; an in-kind match from the City's Police Department General Fund budget of \$3,372,101; an in-kind contribution of \$119,562 from the Texas Department of Public Safety, and program income of \$50,000.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The San Antonio Regional Auto Crimes Taskforce (ReACT) is partially funded through the State of Texas Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority (MVCPA). The mission of the MVCPA is to lower the automobile burglary and theft rate by instituting innovative enforcement and theft prevention techniques. The funds from MVCPA are attained through a \$4.00 surcharge to insured motorists in the State of Texas. Local jurisdictions provide matching funds to operate the Taskforce.

The ReACT was established in 1993 and is a multi-jurisdictional task force. The San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) works in conjunction with the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) and the National Insurance Crimes Bureau. As a task force partner, the DPS provides one position and an in-kind match amount of \$119,562.

Since 2011, the ReACT has helped recover 12,966 vehicles at a total value of about \$185 million. In 2024 alone, the taskforce recovered 989 vehicles valued at \$19.3 million and arrested 297 individuals.

The task force is comprised of three participating agencies - the San Antonio Police Department, Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), and the National Insurance Crimes Bureau. The table below provides a breakdown of the members by participating agency for the proposed FY26 Grant. The personnel compliment for the FY2026 grant includes a new grant funded criminal analyst position for the SAPD. This position will assist in Auto Theft and Burglary of Motor Vehicle investigations. The table below provides the breakout of the 30 positions associated with this program.

	Lieutenant	Sergeant	Detective	Admin Asst. I	Admin Asst. II	Crime Analyst (NEW)	Total
SAPD General Fund	1	2	11	1			15
SAPD Grant		1	9	1	1	1	13
Department of Public Safety			1				1
National Insurance Crimes Bureau			1				1

Primary Goals of the Taskforce:

- Reduce auto burglary, auto theft, and related gateway crimes
- Investigate and solve active cases and prosecute offenders
- Educate the public and local businesses on crime prevention strategies

Proactive Measures:

- Conduct salvage yard inspections
- Perform interdiction activities
- Locate chop shops
- Identify automotive organized crime
- Perform surveillance to apprehend criminals committing vehicle theft and burglary of vehicles
- Conduct operations targeting offenders
- Schedule and perform state required 68-A Inspections
- Perform VIN etching services

- Attend community events to educate the public

Positions

The grant funds 13 positions for the project: 1 Police Sergeant, 9 Detective Investigators, 2 Administrative Civilian Positions, and 1 Crime Intel Analyst (NEW).

ISSUE:

Briefing and possible action on a San Antonio Police Department grant application, and acceptance upon award, in an amount not to exceed \$1,369,198 for the Regional Auto Crimes Taskforce (ReACT) Project from the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority (MVCPA).

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total project budget is estimated at \$5,533,693 with grant funding of \$1,369,198, City cash match contribution of \$517,143 which includes employee benefits, office supplies and vehicle parts/equipment, and in-kind match of \$3,372,101 which includes salary, overtime and employee benefits, program income of \$50,000, an in-kind match of \$105,689 from the National Insurance Crime Bureau, and an in-kind match of \$119,562 from the Texas Department of Public Safety. The grant period beginning September 1, 2025, to August 31, 2026, contingent upon budget approval.

Matching funds will be submitted as part of the FY 2026 Budget Process and acceptance of this grant will be contingent upon approval of the \$517,143 grant cash match.

ALTERNATIVES:

No alternatives.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Public Safety Committee forwards this grant application, and acceptance upon award, to full City Council for approval.