



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
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Agenda Item Number: 2

Agenda Date: August 20, 2024

In Control: Public Safety Committee

DEPARTMENT: Police Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: William McManus, Chief of Police

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Comprehensive Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) Grant

SUMMARY:

The San Antonio Police Department will provide the Public Safety Committee with a briefing on the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Comprehensive Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) Grant, which has been awarded to the City for the period of October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025. The grant in the amount not to exceed \$1,200,000.00 will enhance the San Antonio Police Department's (SAPD) efforts to combat incidences of DWI, speeding, occupant protection, distracted driving, and intersection related violations. This grant requires a cash match not to exceed \$265,000.00 and an in-kind match not to exceed \$82,000.00.

The approval of this grant acceptance of funds is scheduled for City Council consideration in "A" Session on September 5, 2024.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Comprehensive Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) grant will provide for traffic enforcement and educational activity on an overtime basis to help augment the SAPD's efforts to reduce the incidence of DWI, speeding, occupant protection, distracted driving, and intersection related violations. Enforcement activity will be conducted with sworn officers assigned to the program on an overtime basis and the educational component will consist of both regular duty and overtime assignments.

The educational activities include classroom instruction on safe driving practices, drunk driving simulations, and traffic accident displays at schools and community events. The public education outreach portion of the grant is a collaboration between the San Antonio Police Department and the Texas Department of Transportation to promote traffic safety.

On August 7th, 2024, TxDOT notified the SAPD of the grant award. The TxDOT award consists of up to \$1,200,000.00 from TxDOT, a City cash match of \$265,000.00, and an in-kind match of \$82,000.00. The total proposed program budget is \$1,547,000.00. The City's in-kind contribution will come from the cost of fuel, maintenance, and repairs of the vehicles used while performing grant activities, and the cost of court appearances by officers who make arrests while performing grant activities

The grant application was authorized by a Grant Application Approval Form dated January 4, 2024, and the application was submitted to TxDOT on January 4, 2024.

ISSUE:

Briefing and possible action on a San Antonio Police Department grant award in an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000.00 for the Comprehensive Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) Grant from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT).

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total program budget is estimated at \$1,547,000.00. The total proposed program budget includes grant funding in an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000.00, a FY 2025 General Fund cash match of \$265,000.00 and an in-kind contribution of \$82,000.00, which is contingent upon the acceptance of the FY25 budget. The City's in-kind contribution will come from the cost of the vehicles used while performing grant activities (fuel, maintenance, repairs, etc.) and the cost of court appearances by officers who make arrests while working the grant.

ALTERNATIVES:

No alternatives.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Public Safety Committee forwards this grant acceptance to full City Council for approval. This item is scheduled for consideration at the September 5th "A" Session.