



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 13

Agenda Date: August 31, 2023

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Police Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: William McManus, Chief of Police

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

An ordinance authorizing the acceptance of funds upon award for the Texas Anti-Gang (TAG) Program, not to exceed \$6,500,000, from the Office of the Governor, Public Safety Office, Homeland Security Grants Division and establishing an interlocal cooperation agreement with the Texas Department of Public Safety, Bexar County Criminal District Attorney's Office, and the Bexar County Sheriff's Office.

SUMMARY:

An ordinance authorizing the acceptance of funds upon award, not to exceed \$6,500,000, from the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division (CJD), Public Safety Office (PSO), Homeland Security Grants Division (HSGD) for the of Texas Anti-Gang (TAG) Program multi-agency TAG Task Force Center in San Antonio, establishing an interlocal cooperation agreement with the Texas Department of Public Safety, Bexar County Criminal District Attorney's Office, and the Bexar County Sheriff's Office, and authorizing a personnel complement of two (2) San Antonio Police Officer positions funded by the grant and two (2) civilian positions - one (1) Fiscal Analyst and one (1) Crime Intelligence Analyst.

This grant acceptance was approved by the Public Safety Committee on August 15, 2023 to move forward to the full City Council for consideration.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The \$6,500,000.00 grant will fund the San Antonio Police Department Texas Anti-Gang (TAG) initiative. The grant program is an invitation-only for preselected projects that support regional, multidisciplinary approaches to combat gang violence through the coordination of gang prevention, intervention, and suppression activities. With this grant award, the Department of Public Safety (DPS) is transferring the fiscal agent responsibility to the City of San Antonio, San Antonio Police Department.

The combined law enforcement resources and strategies program will focus on decreasing regional threats created by gang activities with the ultimate goal of disrupting the command and control of gang criminal organizations which affect the public safety in our communities.

The program is coordinated and overseen by an advisory board consisting of representatives from the constituent agencies (Department of Public Safety (DPS), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), Bexar County Sheriff's Office (BCSO), Bexar County Criminal District Attorney (BCCDA), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), United States Attorney's Office (USAO), Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ), Office of the Inspector General (OIG), and the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS)).

The grant adds two (2) additional sworn Police Officer positions to SAPD. The officers will be assigned to the TAG to provide uniformed support to their operation as well as work closely with school districts on prevention/intervention activities at local school districts in San Antonio that are affected by the growing impact of gangs crime and violence in schools.

The grant funds are distributed as follows: \$1,638,570 for SAPD, \$3,452,204 for all agencies shared resources including Software (\$1.4M), Building Lease (\$836k), and Network equipment (\$550k). The remaining \$994,682 will be utilized for other agency resources, including vehicles, school officers, and DPS Analysts.

This grant acceptance was approved by the Public Safety Committee on August 15, 2023 to move forward to the full City Council for consideration.

ISSUE:

Currently the grant fiscal agent of the FY23 TAG Program is the Department of Public Safety. The Office of the Governor has requested that the SAPD assume the fiduciary control of the FY24 TAG Program.

ALTERNATIVES:

No alternatives.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The grant is for up to \$6,500,000.00 for 12 months. No cash or in-kind match required.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that City Council approve the acceptance of this grant. This approval will continue to enhance efforts to reduce gang violence in San Antonio.