



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

### File Number:

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**Agenda Item Number:** 17

**Agenda Date:** May 18, 2023

**In Control:** City Council A Session

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**DEPARTMENT:** Police Department

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** William McManus, Chief of Police

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

2023 Texas Department of Transportation Operation Slowdown Grant

**SUMMARY:**

An ordinance authorizing the acceptance of grant funds, in an amount not to exceed \$35,000.00 from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for the 2023 "Operation Slowdown" grant program. The grant period is from July 14, 2023, through July 30, 2023, and funding is for overtime salaries. The program budget totals \$43,750.00 which includes grant funds of \$35,000.00 and an in-kind match not to exceed \$8,750.00.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The grant proposal requests funding for the 2023 "Operation Slowdown" grant program. The \$35,000.00 grant will fund enforcement overtime from July 14, 2023, through July 30, 2023, with the goal of reducing speed-related serious bodily injuries and fatality crashes. This will be the second year that TxDOT has offered this invitational grant to the San Antonio Police Department.

The 2022 "Operation Slowdown" program, which funded 325 hours of enforcement activity June

7, 2022 through June 21, 2022 resulted in 810 vehicle stops. A total of 320 citations were issued:

|                                       | <b>Operation<br/>Slowdown<br/>June 7 – 21, 2022</b> | <b>SAPD<br/>Calander Year<br/>2022</b> |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Safety Belt</b>                    | 5   | 1,019                                  |
| <b>Child Safety Seat</b>              | 1   | 482                                    |
| <b>Speeding</b>                       | 193   | 46,400                                 |
| <b>Distracted Driving</b>             | 2   | 3,506                                  |
| <b>Hazardous Moving Violation</b>     | 24  | 5,637                                  |
| <b>Non-Hazardous Moving Violation</b> | 95  | 27,128                                 |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                          | <b>320</b>  | <b>84,172</b>                          |

The grant application was approved through a Grant Application Authorization Form (GAAF) dated March 22, 2023 and presented to the Public Safety Committee on March 21, 2023. Notice of award was received on May 2, 2023.

#### **ISSUE:**

This action continues City Council's policy of seeking intergovernmental financial assistance for City crime prevention and enforcement programs. The 2023 program from TxDOT will enhance the City's efforts in the enforcement of state traffic laws.

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

Council could elect not to accept the grant; however, it would significantly limit the Department's ability to help reduce speed-related serious bodily injuries and fatality crashes. Additionally, not participating in this year's program may jeopardize opportunities for future TxDOT grants.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The program budget totals \$43,750.00 which includes grant funds of \$35,000.00 and an in-kind match not to exceed \$8,750.00. In-kind match will consist of indirect cost and motor vehicle maintenance.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that City Council accept grant funds from TxDOT to continue this significant public safety effort.