City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:20-6734

Agenda Item Number: 5.

Agenda Date: 11/17/2020

In Control: Public Safety Committee

DEPARTMENT: Police

DEPARTMENT HEAD: William P. McManus, Chief of Police

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: City Wide

SUBJECT:

Briefing and possible action on a San Antonio Police Department grant application in an amount not to exceed $900,000 for the Comprehensive Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) Grant from the Texas Department of Transportation.

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 application for the period of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022. The STEP grant in the amount not to exceed $900,000 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 of $265,000 and an in-kind match of $77,500.

The approval of this grant application is scheduled for City Council consideration in "A" Session on December 10, 2020.

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 TxDOT grant, if awarded, would consist of up to $900,000 and requires a City cash match of $265,000, and an in-kind match of $77,500. The total proposed program budget is $1,242,500. 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 performing activities under the grant.

The grant application, if authorized by City Council ordinance, will be submitted to TxDOT by due date of January 6, 2021. The STEP will pay 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.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total program budget is estimated at $1,242,500. The total proposed program budget includes grant funding in an amount not to exceed $900,000, a FY 2021 General Fund cash match of $265,000, which has been budgeted, and an in-kind contribution of $77,500. 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.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Public Safety Committee forwards this grant to full City Council for approval and acceptance. This item is scheduled for consideration in "A" Session on December 10, 2020.