

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting: June 28, 2018

Item Number: **040**

Police

Approve a resolution authorizing the application for and acceptance of grant funding in the amount of \$430,685 from the Texas Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority to continue the Austin Police Department project entitled the APD Auto Burglary and Theft Interdiction Project.

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| Lead Department | Austin Police Department. |
| Fiscal Note | Funding in the amount of \$430,685 is available from the Texas Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority for the project period of September 1, 2018 - August 31, 2019. A City match of \$194,716 will be met by accounting for the base salary and fringe benefits of existing City positions. |
| Prior Council Action | May 18, 2017 - Item #19 Approve a resolution authorizing the application for and acceptance of \$452,219 in grant funding from the Texas Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority to continue the Austin Police Department project entitled the APD Auto Burglary and Theft Interdiction Project. Resolution No. 20170518-019 was approved on consent on Council Member Garza’s motion, Council Member Kitchen’s second on an 11-0 vote. |
| For More Information | Troy Gay, Assistant Chief, Austin Police Department @ 512-974-5030. |

Additional Backup Information:

This action will provide the resolution required by the Texas Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority to apply for and accept \$430,685 in grant funding. The resolution approved by Council must be attached to the City grant application, which is due June 29, 2018.

The resolution must:

- Provide authority to apply for the grant
- Provide that funds will be returned in the event of loss or misuse
- Designate the Authorized Official (Assistant City Manager), Financial Officer (APD Financial Manager), and Project Director (APD Property Crimes Lieutenant)

The budget for the September 1, 2018 - August 31, 2019 project period includes: personnel (\$378,939), and fringe (\$51,746). Personnel line items include portions of existing grant-funded positions: detectives (3), neighborhood liaison (1), and administrative specialist (1). The City match of \$194,716 will be met by accounting for the base salary and fringe benefits of existing City positions assigned in part to the project.

The Austin Police Department has partnered with the Texas Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority since the late 1990's. With the assistance of ABTPA grant funding, the APD Auto Burglary and Theft Interdiction Project has been successful in implementing a variety of strategies to reduce auto thefts, recover stolen vehicles, and prosecute offenders. Proactive crime analysis assists in identifying problems involving commercial auto thefts and in targeting "theft for profit" offenders. Examples of commercial auto theft activities occurring in Austin, Travis County include VIN switches, vehicle cloning, chop shops, illegal part dealings and international smuggling operations. Growth in population, registered vehicles and continued annexations to the City generate an increased number of vehicles, naturally leading to additional opportunities for criminal activity.