Thursday, May 8, 2008

Police RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 30

Subject: Approve a resolution authorizing the application for renewal funding from the Texas Department of Transportation, Texas Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority, in the amount of \$394,597 in grant funds for the Austin Police Department project entitled "Auto Burglary and Theft Interdiction Project."

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from the Texas Department of Transportation, Texas Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority, for the grant period September 1, 2008 - August 31, 2009. An in kind match of 20% is required and will be met using the salaries of existing personnel. Funding for the program is contingent upon available funding in future APD budgets.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Chief of Staff David Carter/974-6866

Prior Council Action: March 8, 2007

This action approves a resolution authorizing the application for \$381,543 in grant renewal funding from the Texas Department of Transportation, Texas Auto Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority (ABTPA), to continue the Auto Burglary and Theft Interdiction Project of the Austin Police Department. In-kind match of 20% is required and will be met using the salaries of existing personnel. Funding for this grant program is generated by the \$1.00 per motor vehicle fee paid each year by residents as they purchase car insurance.

The grant application continues funding for two full-time equivalent (FTE) civilian positions as well as portions of the salaries of a lieutenant, sergeant and three (3) detectives. The grant also funds overtime costs for auto theft crime analysis and part of the operating costs associated with the program.

The in-kind match includes General Fund salaries and fringe costs associated with three detectives, and 25% of the salary costs for the sergeant and lieutenant in the Auto Theft Interdiction Unit. Also included in the match is sworn overtime for special operations and program operating costs.

The goal of the Auto Theft Interdiction Project is to reduce the incidence of auto thefts in the City of Austin. Several strategies are employed to meet this goal including investigation, enforcement, prevention, education and prosecution.