

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	44556	Agenda Number	13.
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Meeting Date:	5/7/2015	Department:	Austin Police Department
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Subject

Approve a resolution authorizing the application for and acceptance of \$573,246 in grant funding from the Texas Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$573,246 is available from the Texas Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority for the project period of September 1, 2015 – August 31, 2016. The City match of \$191,600, approximately 25% of the total project cost, will be met by accounting for the base salary and fringe benefits of existing City positions.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is not required

Purchasing Language:

Prior Council Action: April 10, 2014 - Council approved Resolution No. 20140410-014.

For More Information:

Council Committee,
Boards and
Commission Action:

MBE / WBE:

Related Items:

Additional Backup Information

This action will provide the resolution required by the Texas Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority to apply for and accept \$573,246 in grant funding. The resolution approved by council must be attached to the City of Austin grant application, which is due May 22, 2015.

The resolution must:

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

According to the ABTPA, the designation of officials means we should provide the title of the person assuming the role of each official. It is allowable to include names but if we do so and there is turnover, we will need to provide ABTPA an updated Council resolution.

The budget for the September 1, 2015 – August 31, 2016 project period includes: personnel (\$502,738), training costs (\$10,000), equipment (\$48,648), and supplies (\$11,860). Personnel line items include portions of existing grant-funded positions: Detectives (3), Neighborhood Liaison (1), and Administrative Specialist (1). In addition, the personnel budget includes two temporary grant-funded administrative specialists to absorb increased workload and administrative backlog. The City match of \$191,600, approximately 25% of the total project cost, will be met by accounting for the base salary and fringe benefits of existing City positions assigned 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.