

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 01/11/22

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 22-0032

LOG NAME: 35FY2021-INCIDENT MANAGEMENT FREEWAY BLOCKING EQUIPMENT

SUBJECT

(ALL) Ratify Application for, and Authorize Acceptance of, if Awarded, a Grant from the Texas Department of Transportation for 2021 Incident Management Freeway Blocking Equipment Program in an Amount Up to \$200,000.00, Authorize Execution of Related Grant Agreement, and Adopt Attached Appropriation Ordinances

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Ratify application for, and authorize acceptance of, if awarded, the 2021 Incident Management Freeway Blocking Equipment Grant administered by the Texas Department of Transportation in an amount up to \$200,000.00;
 2. Authorize the execution of a grant agreement with Texas Department of Transportation for the 2021 Incident Management Freeway Blocking Equipment Grant;
 3. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Justice Asset Forfeiture Fund in the amount of \$40,000.00, from use of fund balance, for the purpose of transferring to the Grants Operating State Fund as the City's match requirement; and
 4. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Grants Operating State Fund (1) by \$160,000.00 subject to award and receipt of the Grant Funds, and (2) by \$40,000.00, as a transfer from the Justice Asset Forfeiture Fund to satisfy the City's match requirement, for a total of \$200,000.00, for the purpose of funding the 2021 Incident Management Freeway Blocking Equipment program.
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DISCUSSION:

2021 Incident Management Freeway Blocking Equipment grants are aimed at providing scene management blocking equipment used to provide protection to first responders responding to traffic accidents. The grant will pay for a one-of-a-kind truck that includes essential equipment and add-ons to address protection to block traffic and improve freeway safety. A local match of 20% is required.

The primary activity of the 2021 City's Incident Management Freeway Blocking Equipment grant will be the purchase of a vehicle with unique add-on features. The total proposed direct program amount for the grant is \$200,000.00, which includes \$40,000.00 in match funds. Funds will be budgeted for the purchase of a 2022 Ford F450 truck and added features, including a tow truck style front push bumper with grille guard and winch capable of pushing vehicles out of the way.

As for the City's required match, the Police Department will use the Justice Asset Forfeiture Fund to satisfy match requirements. Because balance exists in the Fiscal Year 2022 Justice Asset Forfeiture Fund, staff recommends that the \$40,000.00 be appropriated and transferred from that Fund to the Grants Operating State Fund.

These grant funds will be for the purchase of a truck and add-ons to mitigate and/or prevent secondary incidents on the freeways.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This contract will be with a governmental entity, state agency or public institution of higher education: Texas Department of Transportation

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations and adoption of the attached appropriation ordinances, funds will be available in the current operating budgets, as appropriated, in the Grants Operating State Fund and the Justice Asset Forfeiture Fund. The Police Department (and Financial Management Services) will be responsible for the collection and deposit of funds due to the City. Prior to an expenditure being incurred, the Police Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds. This is a reimbursement grant.

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