

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

DATE: 3/18/2024	SUBJECT: Resolution #2024-R-105 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$2,200,000.00 TO THE TEXAS MOTOR VEHICLE CRIME PREVENTION AUTHORITY FOR THE SB 224 CATALYTIC CONVERTER GRANT FOR THE PERIOD OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2023 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2024. THE PURPOSE OF THIS GRANT PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE LAREDO AUTO THEFT TASK FORCE/LAREDO POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR THE DETECTION AND PREVENTION OF CATALYTIC CONVERTER THEFT. THIS GRANT WILL PAY FOR THE SALARY OF A FULL-TIME ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY, TECHNOLOGY, TRAINING, AND OVERTIME. THE 20% CASH MATCH WILL BE WAIVED FOR THIS FISCAL YEAR (FY24). IF AWARDED, FUNDING WILL BE APPROPRIATED IN THE AUTO THEFT TASK FORCE FUND.	
INITIATED BY: Rosario C. Cabello Deputy City Manager		STAFF SOURCE: Miguel A. Rodriguez, Jr. Chief of Police
PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: None.		
BACKGROUND: The Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority (MVCPA) has authorized the issuance of the Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) Request for Applications (RFA). Senate Bill 224 (SB) 224 provides that "The money deposited to the credit of the general revenue fund for coordinated regulatory and law enforcement activities intended to detect and prevent catalytic converter theft in this state may be appropriated to the Authority for the activities required by this section." To implement SB 224, the MVCPA is providing grants to local law enforcement taskforces and agencies to combat Catalytic Converter Theft. All applications submitted will be for FY2024. If awarded an FY2024 SB 224 Catalytic Converter Grant, the MVCPA may provide a FY 2025 grant subject to availability of funding and grantees' positive program performance. The MVCPA will use the same FY2024 application and prorated budget values as originally submitted for the additional period. Any ongoing program (scope) changes or budget changes will be submitted by grantees through the grant adjustment process after the creation of the second-year grants.		
FINANCIAL IMPACT: Funding will be available in the Special Police Fund.		
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:		STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Recommends the approval of this Resolution.

RESOLUTION #2024-R-105

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$2,200,000.00 TO THE TEXAS MOTOR VEHICLE CRIME PREVENTION AUTHORITY FOR THE SB 224 CATALYTIC CONVERTER GRANT FOR THE PERIOD OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2023 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2024. THE PURPOSE OF THIS GRANT PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE LAREDO AUTO THEFT TASK FORCE/LAREDO POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR THE DETECTION AND PREVENTION OF CATALYTIC CONVERTER THEFT. THIS GRANT WILL PAY FOR THE SALARY OF A FULL-TIME ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY, TECHNOLOGY, TRAINING, AND OVERTIME. THE 20% CASH MATCH WILL BE WAIVED FOR THIS FISCAL YEAR (FY24). IF AWARDED, FUNDING WILL BE APPROPRIATED IN THE AUTO THEFT TASK FORCE FUND.

Whereas, the City of Laredo finds it in the best interest of the citizens of Laredo that the FY 2024 SB 224 Catalytic Converter Grant Program be operated for the 2023-2024 fiscal year; and

Whereas, the City of Laredo designated the City Manager as the grantee's authorized official. The authorized official is given the power to apply for, accept, reject, alter or terminate this grant on behalf of the City of Laredo; and

Whereas, the City of Laredo has agreed that in the event of loss or misuse of the grant funds, the City of Laredo assures that the funds will be returned in full to the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAREDO THAT:

Section 1: Authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application in the estimated amount of \$2,200,000.00 to the Texas Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority for the SB 224 Catalytic Converter Grant for the period of September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024. The purpose of this grant program is to provide additional funding for the Laredo Auto Theft Task Force/Laredo Police Department for the detection and prevention of catalytic converter theft. This grant will pay for the salary of a full-time Assistant District Attorney, technology, training, and overtime. The 20% cash match will be waived for this fiscal year (FY24). If awarded, funding will be appropriated in the Auto Theft Task Force Fund.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR ON THIS THE _____ DAY OF _____, 2024.

DR. VICTOR D. TREVIÑO
MAYOR

ATTEST:

JOSE A. VALDEZ, JR.
CITY SECRETARY

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JOAQUIN A. RODRIGUEZ
FIRST ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY