

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO AVIATION DEPARTMENT INTERDEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

TO:

Mayor and City Council

FROM:

Kevin C. Dolliole, Aviation Director

COPIES:

Christopher J. Brady, Legal, Finance, Budget and Management, File

SUBJECT:

Grant Acceptance from the Transportation Security Administration for

Explosives Detection Canine Team Program at San Antonio International

Airport

DATE:

March 20, 2003

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

This proposed ordinance authorizes the acceptance of a grant from the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) for reimbursement of expenses incurred with participation in the TSA Explosives Detection Canine Team Program. This program was first established at San Antonio International Airport (SAT) with City Ordinance No. 95714 of May 2, 2002. This proposed ordinance authorizes acceptance of a reimbursement grant from TSA not to exceed \$120,500.00, the appropriation of said funds and the establishment of a budget in the amount of \$120,500.00. The Program establishes eligible reimbursements of up to \$40,000.00 p er team (TSA approved 3 teams for SAT), p lus \$500.00 in travel expenses to attend the Annual Program Review for a total not to exceed \$120,500.00. This Program will provide canine team utilization at the San Antonio International Airport with a 24-hour per day, 7-day per week response.

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Transportation Security Administration (TSA) regulations, as outlined in Public Law 107.71 of the Aviation and Transportation Security Act of November 2001, called for an increase in security measures pertaining to explosives detection with airports. The TSA Explosives Detection Canine Team Program is designed to assist airports in explosives detection by providing training for both personnel and canines, training materials, canines and reimbursement of operating expenses up to \$40,000.00 per team annually. The program additionally allows up to \$500.00 in travel expense for an annual team review and certification. San Antonio International Airport first participated in this program in May 2002 under City Ordinance No. 95714 and to date has received \$120,500.00, the

three-team maximum for operating expenses. SAT Airport Police continues to manage three canine explosive detection teams to assist with TSA mandated baggage screening, terminal and vehicle screening, aircraft searches and perimeter patrols. All three SAT canine explosive teams are TSA approved/certified and eligible for program grant funding at \$40,000.00 per team.

POLICY ANALYSIS

The proposed ordinance is in support of the Federal initiative to improve security at the nation's commercial airports. It is also consistent with City Council policy for utilizing federal and state funds to improve City services.

FISCAL IMPACT

The cost of the program will be reimbursed through Federal grant funds up to \$120,500.00. Any additional expenses will be provided through the Airport operating budget.

COORDINATION

This item has been coordinated with the City Attorney's office and the Finance Department.

SIGNATURES

Kevin C. Dolliole Aviation Director

Christopher J/Brady Assistant City Manager

Approved: