

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Sheryl Sculley, City Manager  
**FROM:** William P. McManus, Chief of Police  
**SUBJECT:** Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Grant  
**DATE:** May 18, 2006

**SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

An ordinance authorizing the acceptance of \$1,887,022 from the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) for a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) grant and establishing a budget and personnel complement. This grant funds the San Antonio HIDTA Initiative, which consists of the Multi-Agency Drug Courier & Apprehension Task Force, the South Texas Intelligence Center, and the Director's Administrative Support Element for the grant year January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2006.

Staff recommends approval.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The mission of HIDTA is to reduce drug trafficking in the San Antonio metropolitan area by instituting innovative narcotic enforcement investigations and the seizure of illegally obtained assets in an effort to reduce the profitability of narcotics trafficking.

The Multi-Agency Drug Courier & Apprehension Task Force is designed to enhance the Police Department's narcotics enforcement efforts by allowing the unit to utilize the task force concept to target narcotics organizations and interdiction efforts. The task force provides the capability to cross jurisdictional boundaries by employing law enforcement officers from local, state, and federal levels. This grant targets the organizational aspects of the narcotics organizations by focusing on middle to upper level traffickers and conducting investigations of drug distribution and related enterprises. Members of the unit are trained to develop investigations in the area of money laundering, asset structuring, financial auditing, and surveillance techniques necessary to arrest offenders and develop intelligence.

The South Texas Intelligence Center has a two-fold responsibility. The center will respond to inquiries from San Antonio and surrounding counties' criminal justice agencies by

providing timely intelligence reports gathered from databases of the respective member agencies. Secondly, the center will act as a de-confliction unit for South Texas, which covers an area from Bexar County south to Brownsville, and west to Del Rio. This section of the center is of paramount importance relative to officer safety. It will be responsible for maintaining up to date information gathered from all law enforcement agencies operating in South Texas. Utilizing information provided by these agencies, the unit will identify potential conflicts involving officer safety and immediately notify the affected agencies of the potential conflict in order to avoid possible tragic and disastrous consequences.

Because the HIDTA Director's Administrative Support Element is responsible for the overall administration and operation of the South Texas HIDTA program, funds will be utilized for the rental of facilities for the director's office.

Fiscal Year 2006 is the tenth year that this grant has been awarded to the San Antonio Police Department. For FY2006 the total San Antonio HIDTA budget is \$1,887,022, which is a \$356,753 decrease from last year's budget. In FY2005 HIDTA received funding of \$227,000,000. However, for FY2006 HIDTA received approximately \$200,000,000, a reduction of \$27,000,000. As a result, the HIDTA Executive Committee capped fringe benefits at 30% of total salary and eliminated funding for two (2) Police Detective Investigator positions and one (1) Sr. Crime Analyst position. The grant funds a total of sixteen (16) positions.

Although the grant period is January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006, the delay in being awarded the funds is due to the governmental process in appropriating the funds. First, Congress appropriates the funding and releases the funds to ONDCP. This was done on November 30, 2005. ONDCP has 120 days to award the funds to the approved recipients. This year the funds were not released until March 13, 2006. Because of this, the award letter was not received until after the starting date of the grant.

### **POLICY ANALYSIS**

This ordinance continues City Council's policy of seeking intergovernmental financial assistance for City crime prevention and enforcement programs addressing drug crime activity. The program will enhance the city's efforts in addressing narcotics trafficking.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The program budget totals \$1,887,022. A General Fund cash match is not required.

### **COORDINATION**

This ordinance request has been coordinated with the Finance Department, Office of Management & Budget, and the City Attorney's Office.

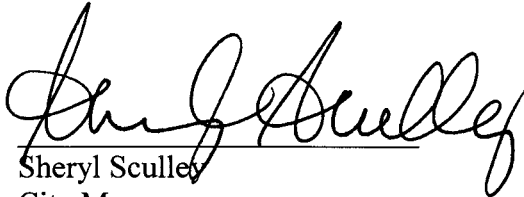
### **SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS**

The Discretionary Contracts Disclosure Form is not required.



William P. McManus  
Chief of Police

Approved for Council Consideration:



Sheryl Sculley  
City Manager