

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

*Agenda item #23*

**TO:** Sheryl Sculley, City Manager

**FROM:** Mark H. Webb, Interim Aviation Director

**SUBJECT:** Grant Acceptance from the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Explosives Detection Canine Team Program for an increase in the reimbursable amount per Canine Team, and one additional Canine Team at San Antonio International Airport

**DATE:** June 8, 2006

**SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION**

This ordinance amends City Ordinance No. 101477, passed on September 29, 2005 by authorizing the acceptance of an additional \$89,500.00 in reimbursement grant funds from the Transportation Security Administration ("TSA") for reimbursement of expenses resulting from increased participation in the TSA Explosives Detection Canine Team Program at San Antonio International Airport during fiscal year 2006; authorizes an increase in the total number of canine teams from four to five, and increases the Airport Police Officer position complement; appropriates funds, and amends the budget.

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

In September 2005, City Council authorized the acceptance of a reimbursement grant not to exceed \$160,500.00 for payment of operating expenses incurred by the San Antonio International Airport ("Airport") in connection with its participation in the TSA Explosives Detection Canine Team Program for FY 2006. The TSA Explosives Detection Canine Team Program is designed to assist airports in explosives detection by providing training for both personnel and canines, and reimbursement of operating expenses up to a specified amount annually per team. SAT has participated in this program since May 2002, and continues to participate with City Council approval and annual acceptance of TSA reimbursement grants for expenses.

The Airport currently operates four teams of canines under the program. The Program provides canine team utilization at the Airport with a 24-hour per day, 7-day per week response. In addition, these TSA-certified canine teams can be utilized outside the airport environment, for up to 20 % of their annual duty time, to respond to emergencies throughout the City of San Antonio. Passage of this ordinance will allow the Airport to establish a fifth TSA-certified explosive detection canine team to assist with TSA mandated baggage screening, terminal and vehicle screening, aircraft searches and perimeter patrols. The additional team, which is needed due to the extensive training requirements for the teams, provides for increased terminal patrols,

ensuring better coverage of the cargo areas located at opposite sides of the airport (East Cargo and West Cargo), multi-level parking garages, and support the new terminal project both during construction and upon completion. Passage of this ordinance increases the position complement in the Airport Operating Fund by one Airport Police Officer, who will be assigned to the Canine Unit as the human officer on the new team. Finally, passage of this ordinance will amend the amount of the reimbursement grant funding which the staff is authorized to accept for FY 2006, in the amount of \$89,500 to take into account the program expansion, appropriate an additional \$89,500 in the Homeland Security Funds, for pre-reimbursement funding, and revise the Airport Canine Grant Budget for Fiscal Year 2006 in the amount of \$89,500. The components of the additional grant funds include an additional \$10,000 for each existing Canine Team (\$40,000 total), \$50,000 for expenses associated with the new Canine Team, and a budget reduction of \$500 that was previously budgeted for attendance at the annual training seminar.

### **POLICY ANALYSIS**

The 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.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

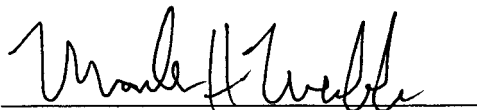
This ordinance appropriates \$89,500 in the Homeland Security Fund, and revises the Airport Canine Grant Budget for Fiscal Year 2006 in the amount of \$89,500. The cost of the position and the program will be reimbursed through Federal grant funds up to \$50,000.00 per Canine Team. Any additional expenses will be provided through the Airport Operating budget.

### **COORDINATION**

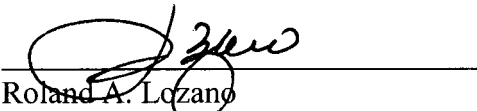
This item has been coordinated with the following departments: Management and Budget, Finance and City Attorney's Office.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS**

No Financial Disclosure is required for this action.

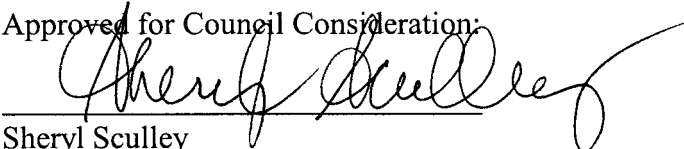


Mark H. Webb  
Interim Aviation Director



Roland A. Lozano  
Assistant to the City Manager

Approved for Council Consideration:



Sheryl Sculley  
City Manager