

Agenda Item Attachment

April 16, 2019 City Council Meeting



Agenda Item: 11
Submitted by: City Manager
Reviewed by:
Budgeted Item: No
For Action: Yes
Attachments: None

Available Grant with Minimal Matching Requirement

Discussion:

Texas Department of Agriculture is in the process of releasing a new grant opportunity. It is called the Fire, Ambulance & Services Truck (FAST) Fund, will allow a grant application up to \$500,000 (with a \$5,000 required match), and there will be \$8,000,000 **statewide** for this fund. The match would be under next year's budget.

The following items are **eligible**:

- fire trucks (most types)
- ambulances and similar emergency medical vehicles
- jaws of life and similar rescue equipment
- rescue boats and similar specialized emergency vehicles

The following items are **ineligible**:

- police cars and other vehicles used primarily by law enforcement
- vehicles that do not address a specific public safety requirement
- vehicles used primarily for the general conduct of government
- supplies (e.g., restocking equipment or vehicle components are not eligible)

Funding selection will be scored on need as defined by:

- poverty rate and per capita income
- previous TxCDBG funding
- past TxCDBG performance

Since this is a new program and we do not know how many and which communities in Texas will apply for this grant, it is difficult to determine how you will score in the poverty rate/per capita income category. If numerous communities in the border region apply, then your chances of funding will be small. Since the City of San Augustine was last funded in 2015, you will only receive 15 out of 20 points for in the previous TxCDBG funding category. However, your poverty rate is high, so this may offset the point loss giving you a decent chance of being funded.

If you wish to pursue this grant, the first step is to hire a grant administrator. These are the basic steps in brief:

- 1) Select a scoring committee of 3-5 city officials;
- 2) then score them (use A508, attached);
- 3) complete and email a form (A506, attached) to three different grant administrators (see link below for list);
- 3) and then let City Council select based on scoring committee recommendations.

The link to the list of administrators and additional details is [http://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant\(CDBG\)/PrequalifiedProfessionalServices.aspx](http://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant(CDBG)/PrequalifiedProfessionalServices.aspx) . Please make sure that the email with the attached form is sent at least 10 days prior to the proposal due date and that it references the 2019 TxCDBG-FAST Program.

Recommended Motions:

I motion we authorize City Management to solicit a Grant Administrator for making an application to TDA for a grant from the TDA Fire, Ambulance & Services Truck (FAST) Fund