

# MEMORANDUM

Milpitas Police Department



Armando Corpuz  
Chief of Police

**DATE:** October 3, 2019  
**TO:** Kevin Moscuzza, Assistant Chief of Police  
**FROM:** Jared Hernandez, Captain  
**SUBJECT:** **BSCC Car Break-In Prevention Grant**

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The City of Milpitas received grant funding from the state in accordance with Assembly Bill 74, Chapter 23, Statutes of 2019, Item 5227 107 0001, Provision 1(d), which provides that the City of Milpitas receive \$750,000 for car break-in prevention. No city matching funds are required.

Staff has identified three (3) key strategies to reduce automobile burglaries in the City of Milpitas. Funding should be allocated towards prevention and education, deterrence, and enforcement to affectively impact the automobile burglary epidemic occurring in our region. Using this multifaceted approach will aid in the identification, apprehension, and prosecution of automobile burglary suspects as well as promote public safety through community education and deterrence.

Further specifics on the spending areas are as follows:

## 1. Prevention/Education

The Milpitas Police Department relies on community partnership as a cornerstone of maintaining a safe city and low crime rate. Minimizing opportunities for citizens to become victims is the most effective way to prevent crime. The purchase of relevant equipment, such as signboards, and services, such as distribution pamphlets or advertisement, will allow us to provide safety tips to the community and encourage cooperation to report suspicious activity and crime.

## 2. Deterrence

Police presence and sanctions are some of the most effective forms of deterrence. The Milpitas Police Department deploys police officers in problem areas as a general deterrent to criminals. Additionally, staff from specialized units are deployed to address crime trends within the City and to deter crime through proactive enforcement. The allocation of funds towards overtime staffing for the purposes of general deterrence and conducting operations to address criminal activity pertaining to auto burglaries will ensure core police services are not impacted by automobile burglary prevention efforts. Proactive enforcement operations may be conducted solely by the Milpitas Police Department or in conjunction with other law enforcement agencies. Cost sharing for joint operations and the sharing of personnel resources will ensure a coordinated, regional approach to the automobile burglary epidemic in our region. Other forms of deterrence may include the presence of overt trailer mounted surveillance systems and POD cameras.

## 3. Enforcement

Automobile burglary suspects rely on technology to help identify potential targets. They are often brazen and place the public at significant risk when fleeing from the scene after committing a crime. To maximize public safety while also optimizing the potential to identify automobile burglary suspects and hold them accountable for their crimes, the Milpitas Police Department currently

deploys various technology and equipment to aid in the identification and apprehension of automobile burglary suspects. Equipment, such as remote camera systems, have been used as a force multiplier and allowed the simultaneous monitoring of high target areas while limiting the number of personnel needed to monitor these areas. Automated License Plate Read (ALPR) Technology has aided in the identification of suspect vehicles, the sharing of information with regional partners, and the apprehension of suspects. Funding should be allocated for the purchase of equipment, as well as the maintenance of existing equipment, that will enable officers to conduct automobile burglary investigations and operations more efficiently while maximizing our effectiveness and decreasing the risk to the public.

Additionally, providing reward money has been an effective method of identifying suspects in criminal cases. Funds for the purposes of rewarding people for information leading to the arrest and conviction of suspects involved in auto burglaries should be available for use in those circumstances where other methods of identification have failed.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

I do not recommend specific dollar amounts be allocated within the three (3) spending areas; Crime trends often shift and depending on the circumstances, focus and funding may need to shift rapidly to be effective. Additionally, I recommend the entire grant fund be tracked on a single budget account code. The Chief of Police, or his designee, should have discretionary spending of the funding in any area of the plan to effectively combat evolving crime trends. Although the State of California has not imposed reporting requirements for expenditures, we should track all expenses regardless.

211 11/7/19

- Approved -  
11/7/2019  
