



# *CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT*

---

**MEETING DATE:** November 15, 2004

**ITEM NUMBER:**

**SUBJECT:** A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COSTA MESA AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR, AND ACCEPTANCE OF, A GRANT AWARD FROM THE CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY FOR THE "REMOVE THE AGGRESSIVE AND IMPAIRED DRIVER" (RAID) PROGRAM.

**DATE:** OCTOBER 29, 2004

**FROM:** POLICE DEPARTMENT-FIELD OPERATIONS DIVISION

**PRESENTATION BY:** TOM A. CURTIS, LIEUTENANT  
TRAFFIC SAFETY BUREAU COMMANDER

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** TOM A. CURTIS  
(714) 754-5191

---

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Adopt Resolution that authorizes the City Manager or his designee to apply for and accept the grant award from the California Office of Traffic Safety for the "Remove the Aggressive and Impaired Driver" (RAID) Program.
2. Approve Budget Adjustment No. 05-031 to appropriate \$468,178 of California Office of Traffic Safety grant to the Police Department's operating budget.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The State of California Business, Transportation, & Housing Agency, through the Office of Traffic Safety, distributes federal funding to California under the National Highway Safety Act and the Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (TEA-21). Grants are used to mitigate traffic safety program deficiencies, expand ongoing activity, or develop a new program. Grant funding cannot replace existing program expenditures, nor can traffic safety funds be used for program maintenance, research, rehabilitation, or construction. The City has applied for several of these grants in the past and has received funds that have significantly assisted with the objectives of the Traffic Safety Bureau.

## **ANALYSIS:**

The City of Costa Mesa has experienced a high level of alcohol-involved collisions and injury collisions associated with speed as the primary collision factor. Additionally, unlicensed/suspended drivers continue to drive regardless of Police Department efforts.

Based on 2002 rankings published by the Office of Traffic Safety, among the 45 cities in Group B (city population 100,001 to 250,000), Costa Mesa ranks poorly in alcohol and speed related collisions. Costa Mesa was ranked the 5<sup>th</sup> worst for alcohol related collisions (impaired drivers between the ages of 21 and 34). This was despite the fact that Costa Mesa Police Department arrested more impaired drivers (859) than any other city in Group B. Costa Mesa also ranked the 5th worst in speed related collisions. Approximately 2800 citations were issued to suspended and unlicensed drivers in Costa Mesa in 2003.

Impaired driving enforcement has always been a top priority with the Costa Mesa Police Department. Since 1986, the Department has staffed a full time impaired driving enforcement team consisting of two officers. In addition to the impaired driving enforcement team, the Department regularly conducts sobriety checkpoints that are funded by grants. An existing Office of Traffic Safety grant funds staffing for a second impaired driving enforcement team to assist in the apprehension of impaired drivers one additional night per week.

Police Department staff has applied, and has received approval, for the current grant offering through the California Office of Traffic Safety. The grant will allow the Police Department to implement the "Remove the Aggressive and Impaired Driver" (RAID) Program. The program will represent a proactive approach to reducing the number of impaired and speed related injury collisions. Grant funds will be used to staff Impaired Driver/Driver License checkpoints and for overtime to staff targeted enforcement shifts. Grant funding will also provide for the purchase of equipment utilized to accomplish the objectives of the grant project. In addition, emphasis will be placed on removing the aggressive driver from roads and highways. The Police Department will do this with a creative and innovative approach utilizing all available resources, such as helicopter patrols, a covert enforcement vehicle, and additional targeted traffic enforcement patrols. Some of the specific project objectives from the grant agreement are as follows:

- Purchase a Chevrolet Tahoe to be used for covert enforcement of impaired driving and aggressive driving.
- Purchase four (4) BMW police motorcycles to be used for enforcement of speed violations, impaired driving and aggressive driving.
- Purchase a radar display trailer and deploy the trailer 5 days a week in previously identified residential neighborhoods and school zones.
- To conduct at least 24 speed enforcement operations in conjunction with the speed trailer.
- Purchase three (3) Lidar speed indicators, to be used for aggressive driving and speed enforcement.
- To provide departmental training regarding unlicensed and suspended drivers and vehicle impounds.
- To conduct eight (8) impaired Driver/Driver License checkpoints.
- To conduct 10 (6 hour) police officer enforcement shifts per month and 4 (6 hour) sergeant enforcement shifts targeting aggressive driving.
- To conduct 24 (4 hour) helicopter patrols targeting aggressive driving.
- To conduct 6 arrest warrant service patrols targeting multiple impaired driver offenders who fail to appear in court or who violate probation.
- Create educational literature to be distributed at Impaired Driver/Driver License checkpoints to motorists.

- To conduct seat belt usage surveys during the months of March and September of each grant year.
- To coordinate a “High School Seat Belt Challenge” at 2 local area high schools during the 2005 – 2006 school year.

To receive these grant funds, the Office of Traffic Safety requires the City Council to adopt a Resolution agreeing to support the grant goals in their entirety. Office of Traffic Safety grant funding is based on the federal fiscal year, which begins on October 1 and ends on September 30. The grant agreement provides funds in the amount of \$468,178 that will be utilized over a 27-month period of time.

**ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

None.

**FISCAL REVIEW:**

The attached budget adjustment #BA 05-031 appropriates the total expected grant of \$468,178 to the Police Department’s operating budget. The grant period is from October 1, 2004 to December 31, 2006. Any unexpended funds at the end of the City’s fiscal year shall be carried over to the following fiscal year until the grant period expires.

This additional appropriation will launch the RAID program thereby expanding traffic enforcement services; however, the expanded program will cease at the conclusion of the grant.

**LEGAL REVIEW:**

The Grant Agreement and associated documents have been reviewed and approved as to form.

**CONCLUSION:**

Based upon an analysis of the Grant Agreement, and the available benefits to the City offered by the award of the grant, Department staff supports the approval of the above listed recommendation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
TOM A. CURTIS  
Traffic Safety Bureau Commander

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN D. HENSLEY  
Chief of Police

\_\_\_\_\_  
MARC R. PUCKETT  
Director of Finance

\_\_\_\_\_  
TOM WOOD  
Acting City Attorney

DISTRIBUTION: City Manager  
City Attorney  
Finance Director  
City Clerk

ATTACHMENTS: 1 [Resolution of the City Council](#)  
2 [Budget Adjustment #05-031](#)  
3 [Office of Traffic Safety Grant Agreement](#)

111504 Office of Traffic Safety Grant RAID Program

110404

1200