

COPY

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT



MEETING DATE: September 19th, 2006

ITEM NUMBER:

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COSTA MESA AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT AWARD FROM THE CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY FOR THE "DUI ENFORCEMENT AND AWARENESS PROGRAM"

DATE: AUGUST 28, 2006

FROM: POLICE DEPARTMENT- FIELD OPERATIONS DIVISION, TRAFFIC SAFETY BUREAU

PRESENTATION BY: RICH ALLUM, SGT.
TRAFFIC SAFETY BUREAU, SPECIAL EVENTS DETAIL

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: RICH ALLUM
(714) 754-4963

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. Adopt Resolution that authorizes the City Manager or his designee to accept the Grant award from the California Office of Traffic Safety for the "DUI Enforcement and Awareness Program".
2. Approve Budget Adjustment # 07-014 to appropriate \$463,717 of California Office of Traffic Safety grant to the Police Department's operating budget.

BACKGROUND:

The State of California Business, Transportation, and Housing Agency, through the Office of Traffic Safety, distributes federal funding to California under the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration. Grants are used to mitigate traffic safety programs deficiencies, expand on-going programs, or to 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 the objectives of the Traffic Safety Bureau and improved traffic safety in the City of Costa Mesa.

ANALYSIS:

The City of Costa Mesa has experienced a high level of alcohol-involved collisions with fatalities and injuries. We have had steady increases in the number of all types of collisions associated with driving under the influence and unlicensed/suspended drivers despite aggressive efforts to curb the practice. Calendar year 2004 statistics show that

56% of fatal collisions involved drivers under the influence. Our hit and run collision rate has also risen consistently despite those efforts. Nearly 40% of arrested drivers involved in alcohol-related collisions have a prior DUI arrest, a previously or currently suspended license, a valid warrant for DUI or driving while suspended, or are currently unlicensed.

Based on 2004 rankings published by the Office of Traffic Safety, among the 50 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 2nd worst for alcohol related collisions (all age groups of impaired drivers). This was despite the fact that Costa Mesa Police Department arrested more impaired drivers (785) than any other city in Group B. Costa Mesa also ranked #1 in speed related collisions and 8th worst for hit-and-run collisions. Approximately 452 citations were issued to suspended and unlicensed drivers in Costa Mesa in 2005. 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 and mini-saturation patrols that are funded by grants.

Police Department staff has applied, and has received approval, for the current grant offered through the California Office of Traffic Safety. The grant will allow the Police Department to implement the DUI Enforcement and Awareness Program (D.E.A.P.). The program will represent a proactive approach to reducing the number of impaired and suspended/revoked driver related injury collisions in the City of Costa Mesa. 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 suspended/revoked driver from our roads and highways. The Police Department will do this with a creative and innovative approach utilizing all available resources, and additional targeted traffic enforcement patrols. Some of the specific project objectives from the grant agreement are as follows:

- ❖ To purchase or develop promotional materials to promote traffic safety awareness and encourage participation in traffic safety presentations and contests. Items must include a traffic safety message, and if space is available the Office of Traffic Safety logo.
- ❖ To conduct eight (8) DUI/DL checkpoints by September 30, 2007 and an additional ten (10) DUI/CDL checkpoints by September 30, 2008.
- ❖ To conduct fifteen (15) DUI saturation patrols by September 30, 2007 and an additional seventeen (17) saturation DUI patrols by September 30, 2008.
- ❖ To conduct fifteen (15) warrant service operations targeting multiple DUI offenders who violate probation terms or fail to appear in court by September 30, 2007 and an additional twelve (12) operations by September 30, 2008.
- ❖ To conduct Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) training for at least twenty-five (25) officers by June 30, 2007.
- ❖ To develop a "Hot Sheet" program to notify Patrol and Traffic Safety Bureau officers to be on the lookout for identified repeat DUI offenders with suspended or revoked licenses as a result of DUI convictions by June 30, 2007. Updated Hot Sheets will be distributed to Patrol and Traffic Safety Bureau officers every three to four weeks.
- ❖ To conduct fifteen (15) "Stakeout" operations that employ police officers to observe the "worst of the worst" repeat DUI offender probationers with

suspended or revoked driver licenses by September 30, 2007 and an additional twelve (12) operations by September 30, 2008.

- ❖ To conduct fifteen (15) "Court Sting" operations to cite individuals driving from court after having their license suspended or revoked by September 30, 2007 and an additional twelve (12) operations by September 30, 2008.
- ❖ To conduct one (1) "Every 15 Minutes" program by September 30, 2007 and an additional "Every 15 Minutes" program by September 30, 2008.

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 \$463,717 that will be utilized over a 24-month period of time (October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2008)

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

None

FISCAL REVIEW:

The attached budget adjustment # 07-014 appropriates the total expected grant of \$463,717 to the Police Departments operating budget. The grant period is from October 1, 2006 to September 30, 2008. 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.

LEGAL REVIEW:

The City Attorney's Office has reviewed the Grant Agreement and associated documents and has approved it as to form and content.

CONCLUSION:

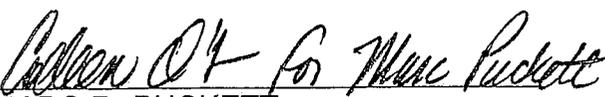
Based upon an analysis of the Grant Agreement and the available benefits to the City offered by the award of the grant, Department staff supports the approval of the above listed recommendation


RICHARD ALLUM

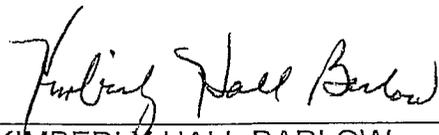
Traffic Safety Bureau


STEVEN H. STAVELEY

Chief of Police


MARC R. PUCKETT

Director of Finance


KIMBERLY HALL BARLOW

City Attorney

DISTRIBUTION: City Manager
City Attorney
Finance Director
City Clerk

- ATTACHMENTS:
- 1 Resolution of the City Council
 - 2 Budget Adjustment # 07-014
 - 3 Office of Traffic Safety Grant Agreement

OTS GRANT (D.E.A.P.)

052806

2 P.M.