



Legislation Text

File #: 20-354, Version: 1

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SUBJECT: Authorization to Accept \$80,000 in Grant Funds from the California Office of Traffic Safety to Conduct DUI Checkpoints, DUI Saturation Patrols, Traffic Safety Enforcement, Along with Purchasing Children Bicycle Helmets and DUI Checkpoint Supplies as Part of the 2020 California Office of Traffic Safety Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) Grant

REPORT IN BRIEF

Considers accepting grant funding from the California Office of Traffic Safety offered to the Merced Police Department in the amount of \$80,000 from the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) Grant to conduct DUI Checkpoints, DUI Saturation Patrols, Pedestrian/Bicycle Enforcement, Traffic Safety Enforcement, along with conducting assemblies for middle schools, and purchasing children bicycle helmets.

RECOMMENDATION

City Council - Adopt a motion:

- A. Accepting the grant and increasing the revenue budget in account 035-1016-324.01-02 by \$80,000; and,
- B. Appropriating the same to Fund 035-Police Office of Traffic Safety Grant Fund; and,
- C. Approving the use of pooled cash until reimbursement from the grant is received; and,
- D. Authorizing the City Manager to execute the necessary documents.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Approve, as recommended by Staff; or,
2. Deny; or,
3. Refer back to Staff for reconsideration of specific items.

AUTHORITY

Charter of the City of Merced, Section 200.

CITY COUNCIL PRIORITIES

As provided for in the 2020-21 Adopted Budget

DISCUSSION

Background

The Merced Police Department (MPD) first received this same grant funding beginning in October 2007. This upcoming grant funding/award will be our eleventh year that the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) has offered us grant funding to operate their traffic/DUI enforcement grants.

Description

The MPD submitted a grant application for grant funding from the OTS. OTS is offering the grant funding to the MPD.

The grant requested funding under OTS's Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) Grant. The grant's mission is to reduce the number of persons killed and injured in alcohol involved crashes and other primary collision factors. The funded strategies include conducting DUI checkpoints and DUI patrols. Other operations include targeted patrols for traffic safety along with pedestrian/bicycle safety. These operations are designed to earn media attention with press releases thus enhancing the overall deterrent effect for drinking and driving and obeying traffic laws.

There is money set aside for travel expenses related to training on DUI enforcement.

There is money set aside to purchase bike helmets for children and DUI Checkpoint supplies.

The application included our request to fund the program accordingly:

Personnel & Benefits	=	\$73,202
Travel (in state only)	=	\$6,000
Other Direct Costs	=	\$798
TOTAL REQUEST	=	\$80,000
Match Amount	=	\$-0-

This grant does not require a match of any type (in-kind or cash). It is a 100% reimbursement grant. Funds are first expended by the MPD and then requests for reimbursement are submitted on a quarterly basis. The grant program period will be October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021

IMPACT ON CITY RESOURCES

Staff is requesting that Council accept the grant award and increase the revenue budget in account 035-1016-324.01-02 by \$80,000; and, appropriate the same to Fund 035; and, allow the use of pooled cash until reimbursement from the grant is received. Without grant funding, the operations described in this grant would not get accomplished.

ATTACHMENTS

1. OTS STEP Grant Agreement/Award