

TO: JAMES L. APP, CITY MANAGER
FROM: DENNIS CASSIDY, CHIEF OF POLICE
SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF TRAFFIC GRANT - "IMPAIRED DRIVER EDUCATION-ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM"
DATE: September 7, 2004

Needs: For the City Council to consider acceptance of a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety to fund education and enforcement of impaired driver and underage drinking laws and purchase equipment to administer specialized programs.

Facts:

1. Impaired drivers are a danger to the public.
2. Alcohol involved traffic collisions doubled in Paso Robles, from 14 in 2002 to 28 in 2003.
 - b) California Office of Traffic Safety collision rankings reveal Paso Robles has issues with impaired drivers as compared to cities with similar population figures. Statistics reveal Paso Robles is arresting DUI drivers at a targeted rate, but collisions are still occurring.
 - c) Alcohol involved collisions – 23/103 (meaning 80 cities ranked better)
 - d) Drivers under 21 years – 46/103 (57 cities ranked better)
 - e) Drivers 21 to 34 years - 8/103 (95 cities ranked better)
 - f) Composite (combined numbers) – 49/103 (54 cities ranked better)
 - g) DUI Arrests – 101/103 (2 cities ranked better)
4. Public education programs, DUI Checkpoints, and underage drinking, and DUI enforcement have proven to reduce DUI collisions and increase public safety.
5. The City was notified of its successful State grant application in the amount of \$160,000 for the purpose of purchasing a DUI Checkpoint/Public Education trailer and the funding of personnel to work educational and enforcement activities over a two-year enforcement period.

Analysis & Conclusion:

The Paso Robles Police Department has historically taken a proactive approach to the enforcement of DUI laws. Statistics compiled by the California Office of Traffic Safety reveal that the Police Department is arresting DUI drivers at the targeted standard of 1% of the number of licensed drivers in the city. However, drinking drivers continue to be a problem that jeopardizes the safety of citizens.

The California Office of Traffic Safety has agreed to fund an educational and enforcement program in Paso Robles that will have a significant impact on DUI and underage drinking. The grant will fund the purchase of a DUI / Public Education trailer, related equipment, and fund personnel to administer the programs.

The acceptance of this grant will have a positive impact on the safety of the residents of Paso Robles.

Policy

Reference: Purchasing and Payment Procedures Manual, Section 7.0.

Fiscal

Impact: None. Costs incurred will be re-imbursed quarterly.

Options:

- a.** Adopt Resolution No. 04-xx accepting the award of a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety to fund the purchase of a DUI Checkpoint / Public Education trailer, related equipment, and the funding of personnel to administer programs of the grant.
- b.** Amend, modify, or reject the above.