

TO THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND COUNCIL:

DATE: July 28, 2008

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT MONIES/FUNDING FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY (OTS) FOR DUI ENFORCEMENT, AWARENESS AND VEHICLE IMPOUND PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$198,126.00

Report in Brief

The Concord Police Department anticipates approval for grant funds totaling \$198,126.00 from the State of California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS). The grant will be used to fund six (6) DUI/Drivers license checkpoints, eight (8) DUI saturation patrols, two (2) warrant sweeps targeting multiple DUI offenders, two (2) "Stakeout" operations that employ officers to observe the "worst of the worst" repeat DUI offender probationers with suspended revoked drivers licenses, and two (2) "Court Sting" operations to cite individuals driving from court after having their license suspended or revoked. Funding will also be utilized to develop a "Hot Sheet" program to notify patrol and traffic officers to be on the lookout for identified repeat DUI offenders with suspended or revoked drivers licenses. All work specific to this grant will be completed by September 30, 2009. If accepted, the program will reduce the number of hit and run collisions and "night-time" collisions resulting in injury or death caused by drivers consuming alcoholic beverages and or being unlicensed to drive a motor vehicle.

Targeted enforcement efforts will be conducted on an overtime basis utilizing two goal based strategies: 1) Driving Under the Influence (DUI) and driver license check points and 2) saturation patrols.

Background

Concord continues to have a significant increase in the number of alcohol involved fatal and injury collisions. Between October 1, 2005 and September 30, 2006 there were 36 alcohol related collisions resulting in 43 persons injured and three persons killed. Between October 1, 2006 and September 30, 2007 there were 51 alcohol related collisions resulting in 60 persons injured and 2 persons killed, a 41.6% increase in alcohol involved collisions, and a 34.8% increase in the number of persons injured and or killed.

The police department's current collision database "CrossRoads" does not keep statistical data regarding suspended or unlicensed drivers involved in collisions. The city is trying to move forward with an upgrade to the system that would allow improved data entry and statistical retrieval in this area.

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The database does track and provide statistics regarding the number of unlicensed and suspended/revoked license citations issued. Unlicensed driver violations are counted as "non-hazardous" citations in the database, while driving with a suspended/revoked license are counted as "hazardous" citations.

There were 11,166 citations issued between October 1, 2006 and September 30, 2007. Of those issued, 7600 were hazardous citations and 3566 were non-hazardous citations. Approximately 9% (682 citations) of the hazardous citations were issued for drivers with a suspended or revoked license. Approximately 18.2% (1346 citations) of the non-hazardous citations were issued for unlicensed drivers. It is apparent Concord has a problem with unlicensed and suspended or revoked licensed drivers.

Between October 1, 2005 and September 30, 2006 the police department made 466 DUI arrests. 88 of those arrests were from traffic collisions. Between October 1, 2006 and September 30, 2007 there were 653 DUI arrests. 122 of those arrests were made from traffic collisions. Approximately 18.68% of our DUI arrests were made as a result of a collision.

There has been a dramatic rise in DUI arrests in the past year, from 466 arrests to 653 DUI arrests as of September 30, 2007. This 40.1% increase in DUI arrests can be directly attributed to the concentrated effort and emphasis the police department placed on arresting DUI and unlicensed, suspended or revoked drivers. OTS funding greatly assisted the police department and the city in this endeavor.

Discussion

The grant funding will be used to pay for all personnel and related material costs associated to the grant objectives during the grant period.

Fiscal Impact

None

Public Contact

The agenda has been posted as required by the Brown Act. Upon notification of grant approval, a press release will be made announcing the kick-off of the grant funded program.

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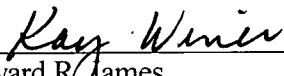
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Recommendation for Action

Approve the acceptance of grant monies in the amount of \$198,126.00 from State of California Office of Traffic Safety for DUI/Unlicensed Driver enforcement, awareness, and vehicle impound program.

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City Manager

Reviewed by: David O. Livingston
Chief of Police

Enclosures:

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