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REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Matthew J. Casey – Deputy Chief of Police

DATE: October 20, 2025

SUBJECT: 2025-2026 New Hampshire Highway Safety Grant

Recommendation

Accept and appropriate the amount \$80,100.00 in grant funding from the New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency designated for the police department to conduct roadway safety and outreach initiatives and purchase C.A.R. (Crash Analysis and Reconstruction) equipment and training.

Background

The New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency has provided grant funding to the Police Department for many years in order for the Department to conduct varied enforcement initiatives designed to improve the safety of the City's roadways. This grant includes funding for the following initiatives: Speed Enforcement, DUI Enforcement, Distracted Driving Enforcement, Pedestrian/Bicycle Enforcement, Seatbelt Mobilization, Impaired Driving Mobilization, Distracted Driving Mobilization and Community Outreach & Betterment. The Community Outreach & Betterment portion of the grant is designed to bring the highway safety message to traditionally underserved New Hampshire drivers and vulnerable road users while fostering positive law enforcement/public interactions with groups such as Refugee/New Americans, Hearing Impaired Drivers, Aging Drivers, Youth Drivers, and Limited English Proficiency Groups. The funding provided by Highway Safety covers the overtime costs associated with conducting these patrols and outreach initiatives.

The New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency also requires a match be provided by the City as part of this grant award. The City match for the Office of Highway Safety Initiatives grant is \$5,775.00. The City match for the C.A.R. Equipment and training grant is \$14,250.00 for a total of \$20,025.00. This match simply puts a dollar amount on the resources that the City will be providing towards these Patrols and equipment throughout the grant period. The City's match will easily be covered through equipment/vehicle costs and administrative costs in managing the grant. Equipment/vehicle costs as well as administrative costs will be tracked and reported to Highway Safety to document the Department's match requirement. It is our intention to continue

this valuable relationship with Highway Safety which allows us to place additional police officers and equipment in the field to assist in our continuing effort to address traffic concerns and make our roadways safer.

After requesting permission to apply for \$23,100.00 from the New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency an opportunity to receive additional funds through the C.A.R. Equipment Grant was presented by the Office of Highway Safety. The initial Highway Safety Grant was amended with a Grant Agreement Amendment Notice requesting an additional \$57,000.00 in funding for a total sum of \$80,100.00.

This C.A.R. Equipment will allow for the Concord Police Department crash unit to increase its investigative capabilities, allowing for better outcomes in criminal, civil, and administrative proceedings. Better investigative outcomes will provide local, state, federal officials with better information to identify causes of serious bodily injury and fatal crashes within the City of Concord. This equipment will also the Concord Police Department to mitigate future crashes through analysis of data. Officers would receive specialized training specific to the use of the requested Crash Analysis Reconstruction Equipment.

Discussion

The Department desires to continue its efforts in making the City's roadways as safe as possible. An important aspect of this is to conduct roadway safety, enhanced enforcement initiatives, and community outreach. Funding provided by this grant will significantly augment the Department's efforts to keep the roadways of the City safe for all those that use them. These grant funded patrols and outreach initiatives will be conducted throughout the year until the grant period ends on 09/30/26. Funding received for equipment would give Police Department staff the capability to conduct their investigations in a more timely and efficient manner. Currently Police Department staff relies on support on their agencies to augment our investigations with their equipment and time.

It is recommended that the City Council authorize the Police Department to accept and appropriate \$80,100.00 in grant funding from the NH Highway Safety Agency designated for Police Department roadway safety initiatives, community outreach, C.A.R. Equipment and training.