



City of Concord, New Hampshire

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3-15

TAA

Bradley C. Osgood
Chief of Police

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council
From: Gregory S. Taylor – Deputy Chief
Re: Authorization to accept grant funding from the NH Highway Safety Agency as provided for under the pre-authorization granted by City Council.
Date: February 26, 2015

Recommendation

It is recommended that City Council approve the acceptance of the below cited grants provided to the Concord Police Department by the NH Highway Safety Agency:

NH Highway Safety Grant Program	Amount	G/L Account
Downtown Pedestrian Safety Patrols	\$4,586.40	Project to be established
Loudon Rd. Enforcement Patrols	\$4,586.40	Project to be established
TOTAL	\$9,172.80	

Background

1. Funds are requested to be expended under the authority established pursuant to Resolution #8120, adopted December 10, 2007.
2. The grant applications for the purposes specified were approved by City Council per resolution #8802 adopted October 14, 2014.
3. The purpose of these grants as stated above is a condition of the grantor and is consistent with and presents no conflict or obstacle to the accomplishment of City Council goals, the code of ordinances, or the operating functions of the department.
4. These grant programs require no City match.
5. The New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency has accepted the authority granted by the City Council for the City Manager to enter into a grant or other agreement pursuant to the resolution cited in number one (1) above.
6. The Finance Director has approved the agreement providing for reimbursement of funds extended in advance by the City.

Discussion

The Concord Police Department has applied for grant funding provided through the NH Highway Safety Agency to fund programs designed to improve the safety of the City's roadways. Funding has been approved for the following two programs: Downtown Pedestrian Safety Patrols, and Loudon Rd. Enforcement Patrols. Funding provided by the NH Highway Safety Agency will reimburse overtime costs associated with each of the enforcement programs. There is no city match for any of these enforcement grants. The following is a more detailed breakdown of each of these grant programs.

Loudon Rd. Enforcement Patrols: The Concord Police Department recognizes that the Loudon Road corridor continues to have the highest rate of motor vehicle accidents within the City. Loudon Road is a very busy and congested roadway with a mixture of commercial and residential buildings and complexes. Many of these complexes are located on the opposite side of the street from a large City park with summer pools. Many traffic violations, including speeding, pedestrian violations, red light violations, lane control violations, and disobedience to traffic control devices, occur on this roadway. This grant will allow for overtime funding for nine extra details of four hours each for two officers to specifically target motor vehicle operation related issues on Loudon Rd. between June 1 and August 31, 2015.

Downtown Pedestrian Safety Patrols: The Concord Police Department continues to strive to make the downtown area safe for both pedestrians and motorists. The downtown area of Concord is very congested during the daytime hours, with many business as well as state, county, and local government offices operating. As the State Capital, Concord has a daily influx of office workers and tourists, many of whom are unfamiliar with the community. The downtown merchants and many citizens of Concord continue to make complaints about the failure of motorists to yield to pedestrians, causing or nearly causing collisions. This grant will allow for overtime funding for nine extra details of four hours each for two officers specifically targeting these motor vehicle / pedestrian violations between June 1 and August 31, 2015.

It is the Concord Police Department's desire to use these initiatives, along with others, to make the City of Concord a safer place to live, play, and work. The Department's long term goal is to change driving habits in order to reduce motor vehicle collisions and to draw more attention to improper driving habits through the media and high patrol visibility.

Cc: City Manager
Deputy City Manager for Finance
City Clerk