



CITY OF CONCORD

REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Deputy Chief Gregory S. Taylor, Police Department

DATE: September 19, 2016

SUBJECT: NH Highway Safety Grant – Distracted Driving Enforcement Patrols

Recommendation – Through the City Manager, authorize the Police Department to accept and appropriate \$10,000 in grant funding from the New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency designated for Distracted Driving Enforcement Patrols.

Background – The NH 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. Included in these initiatives are patrols focused on addressing roadways with high levels of traffic and those with high motor vehicle collision rates, and also addressing aggressive, impaired, and distracted driving behaviors. The funding provided by Highway Safety covers the overtime costs associated with conducting these patrols. Highway Safety also requires an in-kind match be provided by the City as part of this grant award. The total amount of the City match for this grant is \$2,500. This in-kind match simply puts a dollar amount on the resources that the City will be providing towards these Distracted Driving Enforcement patrols 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 in-kind 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.

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 patrols targeting distracted drivers. Funding provided by this grant will augment the Department’s ability to address distracted driving with a goal of reducing motor vehicle collisions and improving roadway safety. These grant funded patrols will be conducted through the year until the grant period ends on 09/30/17.

It is recommended that the City Council authorize the Police Department to accept and appropriate \$10,000 in grant funding from the NH Highway Safety Agency designated for Distracted Driving Enforcement Patrols.