



STAFF REPORT

**REPORT to the MAYOR and MEMBERS of the CITY COUNCIL
From the CITY MANAGER**

DATE: September 15, 2020

SUBJECT: Acceptance and appropriation of the Office of Traffic Safety Grant for the 2020-2021 Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Program

ISSUING DEPARTMENT: Police Department

SUMMARY:

Issues:

Should the City Council accept and appropriate funds from the 2020-2021 California Office of Traffic Safety Grant to pay for overtime and training expenses incurred during the twelve (12) month Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Program?

Recommendations:

Staff recommends that the Council accepts and appropriates funds from the 2020-2021 California Office of Traffic Safety Grant for a Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Program in the amount of \$25,000.00 for overtime and training expenses incurred during the twelve (12) month program as outlined in the staff report. The funds will be appropriated and expended from the Public Safety Grant (213) Fund.

Fiscal Impact:

Participation by the La Mesa Police Department will be limited to paid overtime for Police Sergeant(s), Police Officer(s), Community Service Officer(s), Downtown Operations Assistant(s), Communication Supervisor(s) and Police Dispatcher(s) for selected traffic enforcement operations during the twelve (12) month period of October 1, 2020 thru September 30, 2021. Monies will also be used for specified equipment purchases and training for pedestrian and bicycle safety programs.

Total costs are not to exceed the final grant award of \$25,000.00 and will be reimbursed by billing the Office of Traffic Safety. With City Council approval, the maximum amount that the Office of Traffic Safety would reimburse the City of La

Mesa would be \$25,000.00 The funds will be appropriated and expended from the Public Safety Grant (213) Fund.

City's Strategic Goal:

Safe community.

BACKGROUND:

On September 25, 2018, the La Mesa City Council approved a resolution to adopt a Vision Zero plan to reduce traffic fatalities to zero in the City of La Mesa by the year 2025.

In January of 2020, the La Mesa Police Department applied for this grant through the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS). This is a competitive Grant that many cities apply for and it was awarded to the City of La Mesa for strategies that may include classroom education, bicycle rodeos, community events, presentations, and workshops.

The overall goal of the program is to improve public safety in communities with pedestrian and/or bicycle related collisions including underserved communities, older adults, and school-aged children. Coordinated efforts such as Safe Routes to School initiatives, Vision Zero campaigns, and working with community-based organizations are highly encouraged to prevent fatalities and injuries of vulnerable non-motorized road users. All of these operations will take place at various times during a twelve (12) month period from October 1, 2020 thru September 30, 2021.

After vehicle occupants, pedestrians represent the second largest category of motor vehicle deaths. According to a recent report, a pedestrian is killed by a motor vehicle every two hours in the United States. In a recent year, motor vehicle crashes claimed the lives of 4,735 pedestrians nationwide. Over 100,000 more were injured. Over a 12-year period, between 14 and 17 percent of all traffic deaths annually have involved pedestrians.


During this grant's twelve (12) month enforcement program, the La Mesa Police Department will be scheduling four (4) pedestrian and/or bicycle safety classroom presentations for students, four (4) pedestrian and/or bicycle safety presentations for older adults, conduct four (4) walking school buses, conduct two (2) bicycle rodeos, participate in two (2) traffic safety fairs and two (2) Safe Routes to School coalition meetings, distribute crossing guard safety kits to schools and participate in National Walk to School Day, National Bicycle Safety Month and California Pedestrian Safety Month. All of these operations will be conducted on an overtime basis. Operations may be impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic and any virtual training that can be conducted will replace in person presentations.

CONCLUSION:

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the acceptance of this grant and appropriation of the related funds.


Staff reference: Captain Ray Sweeney

Reviewed by:



Greg Humora
City Manager

Respectfully submitted by:



Matt Nicholass
Acting Chief of Police

Attachments: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-___

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA MESA
AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF A GRANT
FROM THE CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY TO CONDUCT A
LOCAL TRAFFIC SAFETY, PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE SAFETY PROGRAM
BY APPROVING THE ADDITION OF THE GRANT FUNDS TO THE FISCAL
YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET

WHEREAS, on September 25, 2018, the La Mesa City Council approved a resolution to adopt a Vision Zero plan to reduce traffic fatalities to zero in the City of La Mesa by the year 2025;

WHEREAS, after vehicle occupants, pedestrians represent the second largest category of motor vehicle deaths;

WHEREAS, the California Office of Traffic Safety has awarded to the City of La Mesa grant funds for a Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Program for Local Law Enforcement Agencies;

WHEREAS, the participating law enforcement agency is the La Mesa Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of La Mesa has agreed that best practice strategies will be conducted to reduce the number of persons killed and injured in crashes involving pedestrians and bicyclists.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of La Mesa, that the City Council authorizes the acceptance and appropriation of a grant from the Office of Traffic Safety, in the amount of \$25,000.00, to conduct a twelve (12) month Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Program; provided, however, that if the actual revenue received from the source specified should be more or less than the amount set forth herein, that the appropriations shall be adjusted to equal the amount actually received. The appropriation will be in Fund 213, Public Safety Grants.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the addition of the grant funds to Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget in Fund 213, Public Safety Grants.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a Special meeting of the City Council of the City of La Mesa, California, held the 15th day of September 2020, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

CERTIFICATE OF CITY CLERK

I, MEGAN WIEGELMAN, City Clerk of the City of La Mesa, California, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and exact copy of Resolution No. 2020-___, duly passed and adopted by the City Council of said City on the date and by the vote therein recited.

MEGAN WIEGELMAN, CMC, City Clerk

(SEAL OF CITY)