

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: FEBRUARY 13, 2012

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: RASHAD M. YOUNG, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF A RENEWAL GRANT APPLICATION TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES FOR AN AGGRESSIVE DRIVING/DUI INTERDICTION PROGRAM IN FY 2013

ISSUE: Consideration of a renewal grant application to the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) for an aggressive driving and driving under the influence (DUI) interdiction program.

RECOMMENDATIONS: That City Council:

- (1) Approve the grant application (due March 15, 2012) to the Virginia DMV in the amount of \$44,550, which will provide funds to the Police Department to operate a DUI/aggressive driving interdiction program in the City; and
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents that may be required.

DISCUSSION: For the past fourteen years the City has obtained a grant under this program to allow the Police Department to pay overtime for police officers to conduct high intensity patrol operations, targeting aggressive drivers whose behavior contributed statistically to automobile crashes and unsafe driving complaints. The targeted behaviors included right-of-way violations, stop sign violations, speeding and following too closely. In FY 2012, the approved grant was for \$44,275.

The new grant request is for \$44,550 for Federal FY 2013 (October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013). The Police Department requests \$39,200 for overtime operations to combat aggressive driving and DUI violations. If approved, the Police Department will employ police officers on overtime status to deploy mobile and stationary patrols as methods to reduce the number of alcohol and aggressive driving related accidents in the City.

The Police Department also requests \$4,575 for five Alco-Sensors and one Laser speed detection device to assist officers with their enforcement efforts; and \$775 for regional crash investigation and DUI enforcement training. The Alco-Sensors allow an officer to determine a person's blood

alcohol content as part of the preliminary investigation for DUI offenses. The Laser speed detection devices are used to enforce speeding violations.

FISCAL IMPACT: To receive the DMV grant of \$44,550, the City must identify 20 percent matching funds, which may be in-kind. Since the City's share is an in-kind match of resources, there is no additional fiscal impact to the City in obtaining the grant. The proposed match is identified in the Police Department's operating budget for vehicle depreciation and maintenance costs.

If approved, notification is expected by September 2012.

STAFF:

Earl Cook, Police Chief

Dianne Gittins, Captain, Police, Sector Two Commander

Elisabeth Wheel, Division Chief, Police, Fiscal Management

Brenda D'Sylva, Fiscal Analyst, Police