

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 31, 2004

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PHILIP SUNDERLAND, CITY MANAGER *PS*

SUBJECT: SUBMISSION OF A RENEWAL GRANT APPLICATION TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES FOR AN AGGRESSIVE DRIVING INTERDICTION PROGRAM

ISSUE: City Council consideration of a renewal grant application to the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) for a seventh year of funding, in the amount of \$31,080, for the Police Department to operate an aggressive driving and DWI interdiction program.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council:

- (1) Approve the grant application to the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles in the amount of \$31,080, which will provide funds to the Police Department to operate a DWI/aggressive driving interdiction program in the City; and
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents that may be required.

DISCUSSION: In early March, staff received the renewal application for its DMV grant program that funds local police agencies under the Highway Safety Project grant program.

For the past seven 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 accidents and unsafe driving complaints. The targeted behaviors included right-of-way violations, stop sign violations, speeding and following too close.

The new grant request is for \$31,080 for Federal FY 2005 (October 1, 2004 through September 30, 2005). This grant money will be used for overtime operations to combat aggressive driving and DWI violations. The Police Department will employ mobile patrols and sobriety checkpoints as methods to reduce the number of alcohol related accidents in the City.

FISCAL IMPACT: To receive the DMV grant of \$31,080, the City must identify 100 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 this grant. The proposed match is identified in the Police Department's operating budget using budgeted salary and fringe benefit costs for the existing officers.

It should be noted that there are no additional monies in the City budget to continue these activities once the grant funds are expended.

In addition, the City is responsible for the normal administrative costs associated with this grant. These costs include financial and reporting oversight provided by the administering agency, as well as by the Office of Management and Budget and by the Finance Department.

The Police Department has submitted this grant to the DMV in order to meet the deadline of March 31, 2004, with the understanding that subsequent City Council authorization would be required to accept this grant award.

ATTACHMENTS: None. The grant application may be reviewed in the Office of Management and Budget, Room 3600, City Hall during normal working hours.

STAFF:

Charles E. Samarra, Police Chief

Michele Evans, Assistant City Manager

Captain Tim Dickinson, Police, Patrol Division One

Amy Flenniken, Division Chief, Fiscal Management, Police

Alfred Coleman, Budget/Management Analyst, OMB