City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: FEBRUARY 24, 2011

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, 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 2012

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.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council:

(1) Approve the grant application 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;

(2) Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents that may be required; and

(3) Because of City budget constraints, affirm that no additional City funds would be available to fund this program in FY 2012 or future years.

DISCUSSION: For the past 13 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 2011, the approved grant was for $49,783.

The new grant request is for $44,550 for Federal FY 2011 (October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012). 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. 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.

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

If approved, notification is expected in early fall 2011.

STAFF:
Earl Cook, Police Chief
Dianne Gittins, Captain, Police, Sector Two Commander
Elisabeth Wheel, Division Chief, Police, Fiscal Management
Brenda D'Sylva, Police, Fiscal Analyst
Steve Elliott, OMB, Analyst
Bernard Caton, Legislative Director

From:	Jackie Henderson
Sent:	Thursday, March 10, 2011 7:37 PM
To:	Brandi Galloway
Subject:	FW: Deadline for Submission of Police Department DMV Grant

From: Michele Evans
Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2011 5:23 PM
To: City Council
Cc: Earl Cook; Bernard Caton; Jim Hartmann; Scott Ogden; Christopher Bedwell
Subject: Deadline for Submission of Police Department DMV Grant

In response to Council's question at its March 8 legislative meeting, the deadline for submission of the Police Department DMV Grant included on the consent calendar that evening is March 15, 2011.