



MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Michael Martinez, Chief of Police

BY: Alejandro Estrada, Acting Senior Police Officer

SUBJECT: Resolution Approving a Grant Agreement with the California Highway Patrol and Approve a Budget Adjustment

DATE: August 13, 2024

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Chief of Police to execute a grant agreement with the California Highway Patrol to help address ongoing traffic safety concerns and appropriate the funding for the activities;
- 2) Approve a Budget Amendment Request for FY 2024-25 in the amount of \$155,600 to account for the additional revenue and expenditures related to the grant, including the purchase of a DUI Trailer totaling approximately \$60,000 and a DUI Patrol Truck and outfitting totaling \$80,000; and
- 3) Find that adopting the Resolution authorizing the Chief of Police to execute the grant document and appropriate the funding for activities is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") because that declaration in itself has no potential to result in either a direct, or reasonably foreseeable indirect, physical change in the environment. (State CEQA Guidelines, §§ 15060, subd. (c)(2)-(3), 15378.)

IMPACT ON FINANCIAL AND PERSONNEL RESOURCES:

There is no adverse financial impact to the City of Arroyo Grande to accept the California Highway Patrol grant. The annual grant award is for up to \$155,600.

The cost of equipment purchases, training, and overtime staffing for operations will be directly reimbursed through the grant. The cost of time for grant management will be absorbed into the regular duties of the Police Department Administration and Administrative Services Division of the City.

BACKGROUND:

The Arroyo Grande Police Department has not accepted grant funding from the California Highway Patrol in the past. However, with the passage of Proposition 64, the Control, Regulate, and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act (AUMA), California voters mandated the

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state set aside funding for the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to award grants to local governments and qualified nonprofit organizations, as described in the Revenue and Taxation Code Section 34019(f)(3)(B). The Cannabis Tax Fund Grant Program (CTFGP) marks an important step toward reducing impaired driving crashes, increasing public awareness surrounding the dangers of impaired driving, and making California's roadways safer to travel.

The CHP works closely with state and local agencies and other traffic safety stakeholders to actively address impaired driving. The CHP will consider a variety of factors in determining specific needs for each grant cycle, including opportunities and projects best suited to prevent the loss of life, injuries, and property damage caused by driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. The purpose of the CTFGP is to provide alternative funding sources to augment, but not supplant, current activities and programs. The CHP allocates funds for the project categories in accordance with California Code of Regulations (CCR) Sections 1890.05 through 1890.07, as determined by the CHP.

ANALYSIS OF ISSUES:

The City of Arroyo Grande currently has a population of approximately 17,924. However, the City experiences a significant increase in daily population and traffic due to employment, business, and service providers located within Arroyo Grande. Additionally, the City's service population is also impacted by the immediately adjacent cities, which make up the "Five Cities" area. The larger Five Cities area population is approximately 45,000 residents, not including the tourist population, which is estimated over 35,000 a year. Because of the City's location situated half-way between Los Angeles and San Francisco, directly west of Bakersfield, near the beach and the Oceano Dunes Vehicular Recreation Area, significant increases in traffic, pedestrian and alcohol related incidents occur within the City's service area. In addition, the City of Arroyo Grande hosts the only public high school in the Five Cities area, servicing over 2,000 high school students daily. Finally, the City has traditionally hosted several special events throughout the year, such as the Harvest Festival, Halloween, and Christmas in the Village, which also increase the number of driver's, bicyclists, and pedestrians on City roadways. With the resident, student, and transient tourist populations impacting the City's total service population, traffic collisions and traffic incidents have increased over the last several years.

An annual review of DUI collisions reveals that DUI incidents usually increase during the end of summer vacation/Labor Day period, Memorial Day, Independence Day weekends and the holiday period, and Thanksgiving through New Year's. Other times with identified increased DUI crimes and collisions include Halloween, Super Bowl Sunday, and local festivals/events.

Specific to the City of Arroyo Grande, alcohol involved traffic incidents represent a significant threat to the community. These incidents do not consider factors such as age or economic status and affect the community as a whole; thus law enforcement efforts

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need to target the safety of all drivers. The City of Arroyo Grande and the surrounding beach communities are desirable destinations for tourists and residents. In particular, the historic Village area consists of numerous restaurants, shops, and bars. These businesses draw large crowds, both vehicular and pedestrian. The community is safer by reducing the number of DUI drivers on City streets.

Significant progress is made in reducing the frequency of DUI crimes and collisions when law enforcement agencies conduct awareness campaigns and enforcement efforts. At a nationwide level, there has been a significant downward trend in traffic deaths over the last 20 years. However, DUI deaths have not dropped as dramatically. With continued efforts between law enforcement, community-based organizations, and the media, the number of DUI fatalities could be decreased.

Through grant funding from CHP, the Arroyo Grande Police Department will be more successful in educating the public and curbing the problems associated with impaired driving. This will increase the safety of motorists within the City. Accepting the CHP grant will allow for the purchase of equipment and reimbursement of overtime staffing directly relating to training and enforcement of DUI laws. This will be accomplished through a variety of means including but not limited to: advanced training in DUI detection for officers, directed saturation patrols, and DUI checkpoints.

Grant funding will allow the purchase of specialized equipment such as a DUI Command Trailer, DUI Patrol Truck which is an all-electric vehicle and a first for the cities fleet, Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Training, Preliminary Alcohol Screening test (PAS), and funded overtime positions for enforcement programs. The goal of the CHP funded program is to decrease traffic collisions and DUI by increasing public awareness of traffic related incidents, , and increased enforcement of traffic and DUI laws.

Table 1 provides a breakdown by Subcategory of the total Grant Funds allocation.

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Table 1 - Cannabis Tax Fund Grant Program Breakdown

Cost Category	Line Item Name	Total Cost to Grant
Other Direct Costs	PAS Devices	\$1,600.00
	DUI Patrol Vehicle - Outfitting	\$10,000.00
Category Sub-Total		\$11,600.00
Personnel	DUI Saturation Patrol	\$10,500.00
Category Sub-Total		\$10,500.00
Travel	DRE Training – Attend Travel	\$3,500.00
Category Sub-Total		\$3,500.00
Equipment	DUI Trailer	\$60,000.00
	DUI Patrol Vehicle	\$70,000.00
Category Sub-Total		\$130,000.00
Grant Total		\$155,600.00

ALTERNATIVES:

The following alternatives are provided for the Council’s consideration:

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing the Chief of Police to execute the grant agreement with the California Highway Patrol to help address ongoing traffic safety concerns and appropriate the funding for the activities; and Approve a Budget Amendment Request for FY 2024-25 in the amount of \$155,600 to account for the additional revenue and expenditures related to the grant, including the purchase of a DUI Trailer totaling approximately \$60,000 and a DUI Patrol Truck and outfitting totaling \$80,000;
2. Do not adopt the Resolution;
3. Provide other direction to staff.

ADVANTAGES:

Accepting the California Highway Patrol grant will have several advantages. It will fund additional equipment purchases and training in the area of traffic enforcement, DUI detection, and drug impaired driving detection. This will enhance the knowledge, skills, and abilities and, the overall effectiveness of officers in these areas.

It will fund overtime for officers to conduct specialized enforcement operations in the identified areas of concern, such as DUI saturation patrols and DUI checkpoints.

DISADVANTAGES:

No disadvantages are identified if the recommended action is approved. By not accepting the grant, the Police Department will not receive additional funding to enhance its current training programs in the identified areas. This will limit the Police Department’s additional

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enforcement programs, training, and equipment and enhanced public education that can be accomplished with grant funding.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

No environmental review is required for this item. Adopting the Resolution authorizing the Chief of Police to execute the grant document and appropriate the funding for activities is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) because that declaration in itself has no potential to result in either a direct, or reasonably foreseeable indirect, physical change in the environment. (State CEQA Guidelines, §§ 15060, subd. (c)(2)-(3), 15378.)

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION AND COMMENTS:

The Agenda was posted at City Hall and on the City’s website in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Proposed Resolution
2. Draft Grant Agreement