



Agenda Item Summary

File #: RES 20-087, **Version:** 1

Submitted By

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Reviewed By

LKS

Agenda Item Title

A Resolution Authorizing the Submission of an Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) Sustained Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) Grant Application that Focuses on High Visibility Traffic Enforcement During Specific Dates and Times of the Year, Primarily Around National Holidays

Overview

This resolution authorizes staff to submit an application for the IDOT STEP grant that is designed to enhance enforcement efforts aimed at reducing fatalities and serious injuries on some of the deadliest times of the year for vehicle travel. The IDOT STEP grant would fund 100% of the costs associated with these enforcement efforts.

Recommendation

Approve the Resolution

Fiscal Impact

The IDOT STEP grant would fund 100% of costs associated with the holiday enforcement campaigns. Personnel (Officers and Sergeants) are assigned to these enforcement efforts on a voluntary basis and compensated at their hourly overtime rate. The Village would be required to pay up front for all costs and staff then submits claims for reimbursement through the grant, throughout the fiscal year. As such, there is no fiscal impact associated with this grant.

Background

On 21 January 2020, IDOT announced that they will be accepting applications for the FY20 IDOT STEP grant program. Awarded grant projects will receive 100% federal funding for costs associated with the program and there is no local match. The IDOT STEP grant has been received annually since 2012.

The goals of the IDOT STEP grant program are:

- Reducing motor vehicle crashes
- Reducing fatalities and injuries
- Increasing the use of occupant protection devices
- Reducing Impaired Driving (DUI)

Funding for this program is limited; current/past participation does not guarantee future funding. Applicant agencies are required to take part in at least 6 mandatory holiday campaigns, as listed below:

- Thanksgiving (Occupant Protection)
- Christmas/New Year's (Impaired Driving)
- St. Patrick's Day (Impaired Driving)
- Memorial Day (Occupant Protection)
- Independence Day (Impaired Driving)

Applicant agencies must also conduct the following:

- Pre- and post-enforcement activities (Examples include: news releases, TV interviews, media events, community education)
- Conduct the enforcement campaign for the minimum specified overtime hours. Patrols must be spread out over the enforcement campaign period during times of high crash incidence (as specified by the Grant program)
- Obtain and collect data from the campaign that is then reported to the Grant Program through associated forms

Additional funding is available for optional holiday campaigns (Super Bowl, Halloween) and optional campaigns focusing on Distracted Driving and Speed Enforcement.

Alternatives

The Village could decline the grant opportunity.

Previous Board Action

N/A

Citizen Advisory Commission Action

N/A

Anticipated Future Actions/Commitments

Should the Village of Oak Park be awarded the IDOT STEP grant, the Village will need to enter into an agreement for this grant.

Intergovernmental Cooperation Opportunities

N/A