



**Council Meeting: August 26, 2008**

**SUBJECT: Notice of Intent to Apply for, Accept, and Appropriate a Grant from the Office of Traffic Safety in the Amount of \$18,500 for Sobriety Checkpoints and Budget Modification No. 5**

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

The Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety (DPS) is seeking Council approval to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant from the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS), administered through the Traffic Safety Center. The grant monies will provide reimbursement for overtime expenses associated with the operation of two Sobriety Checkpoints conducted in December 2008 and September 2009. Approval of Budget Modification No. 5 is requested to appropriate grant funds into a new project once they are received.

**BACKGROUND**

The mission of OTS is to obtain and effectively administer traffic safety grant funds to reduce deaths, injuries, and economic losses resulting from traffic related collisions. Each year OTS, through its partnership with the Traffic Safety Center at University of California, Berkeley, offers grant funds to law enforcement agencies to cover overtime expenses associated with the operation of Sobriety Checkpoints during the Holiday and Labor Day Mobilization Periods.

If awarded, accepted, and appropriated, these funds will be used in direct support of the above stated goal by conducting two Sobriety Checkpoints, one during each of the Mobilization Periods.

**EXISTING POLICY**

**4.1 Law Enforcement Sub-Element**

Goal 4.1A: Provide a safe and secure environment for people and property in the community.

Policy 4.1A.5: Facilitate the safe movement of pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicles.

Action Statement 4.1A.5g: Participate in activities that enhance the successful detection, apprehension, rehabilitation and prevention of persons driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs.

Action Statement 4.1A5h: Participate in prevention and enforcement activities directed at minimizing personal injury in traffic collisions.

Policy 4.1D.2: Provide effective and efficient management of Public Safety resources in order to meet the needs of: The community, the internal organization, and those mandated by regional, State, and Federal agencies.

Action Statement 4.1D.2b: Develop proposals and apply for appropriate governmental grants.

### **DISCUSSION**

Public Safety received notification from OTS encouraging a grant application to fund sobriety checkpoints during the coming year.

Each year, OTS funds similar mini-grants. The goal of the statewide checkpoint program is to reduce the number of people killed in alcohol-involved crashes. Sobriety checkpoints are an effective way to maximize the deterrent effect and increase the perception of apprehension of motorists who would operate a vehicle while impaired by alcohol. Studies conducted in California and other states point to the fact that cities conducting sobriety checkpoints report substantial reductions in alcohol-involved crashes.

The mini-grants are available for overtime costs to conduct sobriety checkpoints during the following two "National Impaired Driving Campaign" mobilization periods:

- The Winter Holiday period in December 2008/January 2009
- The Labor Day period in August 2009/September 2009

If awarded, the mini-grant is expected to be in the amount of \$18,500, to cover expenses associated with two checkpoints, one during the 2008 Winter Holiday Mobilization Period and one during the 2009 Labor Day Mobilization Period.

DPS will have additional opportunities to participate in local and countywide education and enforcement activities throughout the year.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no net fiscal impact to the City for participating in this program, as all expenditures related to this program will be covered by the OTS grant. If Council authorizes DPS to apply for and accept the OTS Sobriety Checkpoint mini-grant, authorization also is needed to appropriate the monies accordingly. Budget Modification No. 5 has been prepared to appropriate revenues from the OTS Sobriety Checkpoint mini-grant into a new project. The project will allow DPS to effectively manage the specific costs associated with the overtime used to conduct two sobriety checkpoints.

**BUDGET MODIFICATION NO. 5**  
**FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008**

	<b>Current</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>Revised</b>
<b>General Fund</b>			
<u>Revenues:</u>			
OTS Grant Revenue	\$0	\$18,500	\$18,500
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
New Special Project — OTS National Impaired Driving Campaign Sobriety Checkpoints	\$0	\$18,500	\$18,500

**PUBLIC CONTACT**

Public contact was made by posting the Council agenda on the City’s official-notice bulletin board outside City Hall, in the Council Chambers lobby, in the Office of the City Clerk, at the Library, Senior Center, Community Center, and Department of Public Safety; posting the agenda and report on the City’s Web site; and making the report available at the Library and the Office of the City Clerk.

**ALTERNATIVES**

1. Authorize staff to apply for the Office of Traffic Safety Sobriety Checkpoint mini-grant monies. If the grant is awarded, it will be accepted, Budget Modification No. 5 will be approved, and monies will be appropriated to a new project to fund the associated overtime expenses.
  
2. Do not authorize staff to apply for the Office of Traffic Safety Sobriety Checkpoint mini-grant monies for reimbursement of overtime expenses for two sobriety checkpoints.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends Alternative #1. Authorize staff to apply for the Office of Traffic Safety Sobriety Checkpoint mini-grant monies. If the grant is awarded, it will be accepted, Budget Modification No. 5 will be approved, and monies will be appropriated to a new project to fund the associated overtime expenses.

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the Amount of \$18,500 for Sobriety Checkpoints and Budget Modification No. 5**

**August 26, 2008**

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Reviewed by:

Don Johnson, Director, Public Safety  
Prepared by: Heather Tannehill, Manager

Reviewed by:

Mary J. Bradley, Director, Finance

Approved by:

Amy Chan  
City Manager