



City Council Report

Date: November 1, 2021
To: City Council
Through: John Pombier, Assistant City Manager
From: Ken Cost, Police Chief
Robert Rash, Commander
Subject: Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Enforcement and Related Materials and Supplies Grant - Citywide

Purpose and Recommendation

The City of Mesa Police Department is respectfully requesting the Mesa City Council approve and authorize the City Manager or designee to enter into a Highway Safety Contract with the Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety to accept \$50,726 in grant funds. The funds will be used by the Police Department's Traffic Division for overtime, employee related expenses, materials and supplies for pedestrian and bicycle safety throughout the City of Mesa.

Background

Pedestrians crossing outside of the crosswalk and against traffic lights, and bicyclists traveling against traffic is a large problem. In 2020, 12 of the 15 pedestrian fatalities were crossing midblock or against traffic lights. A single bicycle related fatality involved the bicyclist riding into the lane of travel where they were hit by an impaired driver. In an effort to reduce these types of fatalities, funds will be used for education and enforcement.

Discussion

The Police Department will educate pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers by:

- Conducting focused operations to increase the educational and enforcement contacts of pedestrian and bicyclists.
- Partnering with local advocacy groups to reach the homeless population.
- Conducting a social media campaign on pedestrian and bicycle safety.

Alternatives

If this Contract is declined, the Mesa Police Department will be limited in providing the

selective traffic enforcement throughout the City.

Fiscal Impact

The award amount is \$28,571 for overtime, \$11,429 for employee related expenses and \$10,726 for materials and supplies. The maximum reimbursement allowed for employee related expenses is 40%, the unreimbursed expenses are approximately \$6,476. Funding for these expenses will be absorbed by the Police Department's Operating Budget.

Mesa Police Department personnel will be responsible for submitting reports on a quarterly basis to the Governor's Office of Highway Safety.

Coordinated With

The City of Mesa Police Department recommends the approval of the Highway Safety Contract with the Governor's Office of Highway Safety.