

CITY OF ONTARIO

Agenda Report
July 7, 2026

SECTION:
CONSENT CALENDAR

Department: Police Department
Prepared By: Nicole Alvarez
Staff Member Presenting: Rudy Lopez, Chief of Police
Approved By: 

Submitted To: Council/OHA
Approved: _____
Continued To: _____
Denied: _____
Item No: 7

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FROM THE CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY (OTS) SELECTIVE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM (STEP) GRANT FY 2026-27 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$336,600

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council authorize the City Manager or his designee to execute all documents necessary to accept a 12-month grant in the amount of \$336,600 from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) for participation in the FY 2026-27 Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) Grant.

THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL GOALS ARE BEING ACHIEVED:

Maintain the Current High Level of Public Safety

Pursue City's Goals and Objectives by Working with Other Governmental Agencies

FISCAL IMPACT: Grant awards were announced in June 2026, and the funds will be used for eligible costs incurred from October 1, 2026 to September 30, 2027. These grants are reimbursable on a quarterly basis and fund police overtime, education, equipment, supplies, and training to conduct DUI saturation patrols, special traffic enforcement, field enforcement, street racing enforcement and training, education and sobriety checkpoints. The department is approved for \$336,600 in grant funding, the City is not required to provide matching funds for the grants. If approved, revenue and associated expenditure adjustments will be included in the Grants Fund at a future quarterly budget update to City Council.

BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS: The California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS), through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), offers local law enforcement agencies overtime grants to mitigate traffic safety program deficiencies, expand ongoing activities, develop new programs, and conduct sobriety checkpoints. The grant period includes two "National Impaired Driving Campaign" mobilization periods: the Winter Mobilization which occurs around Christmas and New Year's Eve and Summer Mobilization which occurs around Labor Day. Sobriety checkpoints, DUI saturation patrols and special traffic enforcement will be scheduled during each of the highly publicized mobilization periods. Additional operations will continue to be conducted outside the mobilization periods. Each overtime operation and checkpoint will be conducted according to each operation's specific needs, which may require supervisors, officers, technicians, and/or clerical/other staff members. The goal of the OTS grant program includes: (1) reducing the

number of people killed in alcohol-involved crashes through the combined efforts of local law enforcement agencies, California Highway Patrol, and OTS, (2) reduce the total number of traffic collisions that occur within the city, (3) through press releases, inform citizens of increased enforcement and educate drivers that the only way to “avoid” arrest, injury, and/or death is to drive sober, and (4) network with regional law enforcement agencies to conduct multiple joint operations to decrease alcohol related issues such as DUI’s and underage drinking.