

TOWN OF WINDSOR AGENDA REPORT

Joint Windsor Town Council, Windsor Redevelopment Successor Agency and Windsor Water District Meeting Date: January 15, 2025

To: Mayor and Town Council
From: Greg Piccinini, Chief of Police
Subject: Office of Traffic Safety - Law Enforcement Grant

Recommendation to Council:

Adopt a resolution authorizing the Town of Windsor Police Department to accept a grant from the State of California Office of the Traffic Safety in the amount of \$120,000 for the Town of Windsor Police Department to implement traffic enforcement program education and authorizing the Town Manager to execute all grants documents on behalf of the Town.

Strategic Plan Element:

The recommended action supports the goal of Organizational Effectiveness. Goal Statement: Achieve a high performing organization by nurturing an engaged workforce committed to a shared vision of public service.

Background:

In January of 2024, the Town of Windsor Police Department applied to the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) to receive up to \$175,000 in grant funding. The grant, sponsored by the State of California, through the Office of Traffic Safety awarded the Town of Windsor Police Department a maximum of \$120,000 in funding. The OTS grant funds allow the Windsor Police Department to perform dedicated traffic enforcement operations to mitigate traffic safety issues. In part, the funding supports collaborative operations allowing assistance by allied Sonoma County law enforcement.

Discussion:

Traffic enforcement and safety remain a top priority for the town as it balances growth and an increased need for public safety on the roadways. Additionally, the town's proximity to the US 101 Highway leads to clusters of crashes on its busiest roadways. These accidents occur during peak commuting hours, and at night, as these roads are not as well-lit as other town streets. Many of the accidents occur close to the highway entrances and exits, including at Shiloh Road (32 crashes from 2020-2023) and at Old Redwood Highway (93 crashes from 2020-2023).

Additionally, Windsor experienced a traffic fatality in 2023, which claimed one pedestrian victim and was alcohol related. Pedestrian crashes with injury have gone from 5 in 2021, 1 in 2022, and 2 in 2023, with a total of 15 injured parties over 3 years. Traffic crashes with injuries have jumped from 100 in 2021, 85 in 2022, and 92 in 2023, with a significant portion of them occurring after dark (7 in 2021, 5 in 2022, and 8 in 2023, with a total of 37 injured parties over the course of 3 years).

Windsor Police are most concerned with; (1) speeding offenders who take to dangerous speeds on the roadways, especially on roads that have no stoplights, which resulted in 13 crashes with injuries in 2023, (2) drunk drivers who may be leaving one of Windsor's many wine or brewing establishments and putting themselves and others at risk by getting behind the wheel after drinking which resulted in

13 crashes with injury in 2023 and (3) general unsafe driving practices including but not limited to reckless driving and distracted driving which are growing in numbers of crash causes. In Windsor, 21 crashes resulted in injury from unsafe turns and lack of signal use alone. These top 3 concerns are exacerbated in the evening hours, often resulting in injuries, and impacting pedestrian safety due to lack of visibility (at night).

Finally, a persistent issue for the Windsor Police Department is pedestrian safety; since 2020, there have been 21 crashes on Windsor roads involving pedestrians, including 1 pedestrian fatality in 2023. This increase can be attributed to several factors but should be addressed promptly to prevent future crashes.

The grant operation period is October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025

Fiscal Impact:

The California Office of Traffic Safety does not have a match requirement. The Town of Windsor will be responsible for any administrative associated with the implementation of the grant award.

Environmental Review:

The proposed action is an administrative activity of the Town of Windsor that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes to the environment.

Attachment(s):

[1. Resolution](#)

Prepared by:

Greg Piccinni
Chief of Police

Recommended by:

Jon Davis
Town Manager