



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**County Board Agenda Item
Meeting of September 8, 2007**

DATE: August 6, 2007

SUBJECT: Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Highway Safety Grant

C. M. RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Authorize the County Manager to accept \$60,000 in awarded funds related to the FY 2008 Highway Safety Program.
2. Contingent upon approval, appropriate in FY 2008 \$60,000 in grant fund revenue from DMV (101.364900) to the Police Department (101.31202) for the costs associated with the program.

ISSUES: Should the County accept awarded funds from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Highway Safety Grant funding in reference to the following highway safety initiatives?

- (a) A comprehensive traffic safety program that includes programs related to the following: Aggressive Driving enforcement, Pedestrian Safety and DUI Enforcement.
- (b) To update the Police Department's inventory of speed measurement devices with the purchase of four LIDAR sets.

SUMMARY: The Police Department is seeking up to accept \$60,000 in Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles Highway Safety Grant funding to implement the highway safety programs.

BACKGROUND: The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) is the federal agency responsible for the promotion of highway safety activities throughout the United States. As part of its responsibility, USDOT provides federal funding to the states for the purpose of adopting and improving projects or programs designed to reduce accidents, injuries and fatalities on the highways within their boundaries. In Virginia, federal funding is administered by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and is provided to state agencies and political subdivisions of the state for the development and continuation of highway safety projects.

County Manager: _____

Staff: Lt D Grinder

DISCUSSION: The Police Department is requesting funds to subsidize costs associated with the enhancement of its selective traffic enforcement programs. With this additional funding, officers will be afforded the time to follow up on aggressive driving complaints received from the community and target their enforcement efforts in areas where they will be most beneficial to public safety. This will also allow officers to participate in DUI Saturation Patrols. These organized patrols will focus a large contingent of officers in areas that have a high frequency of reported DUI violations. Officers will also be available to monitor intersections where a high number of pedestrian related accidents occur. They will take the enforcement actions necessary to ensure the safety of pedestrians and the free flow of traffic. The funds will also enable the Police Department to purchase four additional speed measuring devices (LIDAR sets).

PROGRAM INITIATIVE	COST
Purchase of LIDAR sets (4) @ \$3,000 per item	\$12,000
Overtime funds related to Aggressive Driving and Pedestrian Safety selective enforcement programs	\$21,120
Overtime funds related to DUI enforcement Saturation patrols	\$26,880
TOTAL	\$60,000

FISCAL IMPACT: The Police Department is requesting the acceptance of \$60,000 in awarded grant funds for a comprehensive grant that includes selective enforcement related to Aggressive Driving, Pedestrian Safety and DUI. Arlington County’s required 20% match for the DMV Highway Safety Grant is \$12,000. This cost will be paid as an “in-kind” service match, primarily consisting of gas and maintenance costs related to use of police vehicles. The matching funds will come from the Police Department’s FY 2008 annual operational budget.