



## ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

<p><b>County Board Agenda Item Meeting of September 13, 2008</b></p>
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**DATE:** August 19, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Authorize the County Manager to accept \$68,100 from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) for the FY 2009 DMV Highway Safety Grant

**C. M. RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Authorize the County Manager to accept \$68,100 in awarded funds related to the FY 2009 Highway Safety Program.

**ISSUES:** The County Board appropriated these funds as a part of the FY 2009 budget; this board report authorizes the County Manager to accept the FY 2009 Highway Safety program grant.

**SUMMARY:** The Police Department has been awarded \$68,100 in grant funds from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles for a highway safety project entitled "Arlington County: Safe Streets for Everyone!" The funds will be used to subsidize the associated overtime costs and to purchase Driving Under the Influence (DUI) detection and speed measuring devices.

**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.

**DISCUSSION:** Each year, the Arlington County Police Department submits an application to the Virginia DMV for Highway Safety Grant funding which is used to subsidize costs associated with its selective traffic enforcement programs. Selective traffic enforcement programs include aggressive driving and speed enforcement, organized DUI checkpoints and saturation patrols, as well as pedestrian safety initiatives.

The FY 2009 grant award authorizes the Police Department to purchase five speed measuring devices (LIDAR sets) and ten Preliminary Breath Test (PBT) devices which are used to determine breath alcohol content of drivers in the field. Each LIDAR set comes with a 1 year

<p>County Manager: _____</p>
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<p>Staff: M. Douglas Scott, Chief of Police</p>
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warranty and has an anticipated lifespan of 5-10 years. Each PBT device includes a 1 year warranty and has an anticipated lifespan of 3-5 years. There are no significant costs associated with the routine maintenance of these items.

<b>PROGRAM INITIATIVES</b>	<b>COST</b>
Purchase 5 LIDAR sets (\$2,566 per set)	\$12,830
Purchase 10 Preliminary Breath Test devices (\$400 per device)	\$4,000
Overtime funding related to aggressive driving and other traffic enforcement programs, pedestrian safety, and to DUI enforcement.	\$48,840
Officer Training	\$2,430
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$68,100</b>

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The Police Department is requesting the acceptance of \$68,100 in awarded funds to support selective traffic enforcement programs such as aggressive driving and speed enforcement, organized DUI checkpoints and saturation patrols, as well as pedestrian safety initiatives. The County Board appropriated the grant award as a part of the FY 2009 budget.

Additionally, the Police Department is required to provide a 20% match for the DMV Highway Safety Grant which is \$13,620. This cost will be paid as an “in-kind” service match, primarily consisting of gas and maintenance costs related to the use of police vehicles. The matching funds will come from the Police Department’s FY 2009 regular operating budget.