



CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE COMMUNICATION

MEETING DATE: 02/02/2021

REQUESTER: Fred Bates, Jr.

PRESENTER: Daniel Scesney, Chief of Police

TITLE: Resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply for a STEP Commercial Vehicle Enforcement grant from the TxDOT, Texas Department of Transportation, to conduct commercial motor vehicle enforcement in the amount of \$58,717.19.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve

ANALYSIS:

The City of Grand Prairie covers 81.4 square miles, is the 5th largest city in the Metroplex in land mass, and is situated in three counties (Dallas, Tarrant, and Ellis). The City has a growing population of over 180,000 residents and provides emergency response service for two major Interstate Highways (I-20 and I-30), three State Highways (SH 360, SH 180, and SH 161), US Hwy 287, and Spur Hwy 303. Grand Prairie is a central and connecting City facilitating millions of large commercial vehicles each year. The City's industrial districts house some of the largest distributors in the country. Approximately 30 percent of the City's property tax value is industrial and commercial.

The mission of the Grand Prairie Police Department's Traffic Unit in relationship to commercial motor vehicle's is to enforce the laws of the State of Texas and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations to help ensure the safe and efficient movement of commercial traffic traveling the highways and local streets within the City. Through effective enforcement and interaction with the trucking industry and citizens, the police department's goal is to reduce commercial vehicle crashes and the number of unsafe vehicles operating on the roadways.

The GPPD's Traffic Unit's goal is to also promote detection and correction of commercial motor vehicle safety defects, commercial vehicle driver deficiencies, and unsafe motor carrier practices before they become contributing factors to crashes and hazardous materials incidents. This should thereby contribute to the reduction of commercial vehicle crashes in the City. Due to the large volume of warehouse, industrial, and commercial space in the City, the unit plans to address the growing Metroplex problem of Commercial Motor Vehicle thefts and cargo thefts. The unit, in anticipation of proactively addressing cargo thefts, is applying for additional funds in this grant for that purpose.

The Public Safety, Health, and Environmental Committee reviewed this item on February 1, 2021 and recommended that it be forwarded to the City Council for approval.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

The grant period begins October 1, 2021 and ends September 30, 2022. It is anticipated the total cost for the City during this period will amount to a cash match of \$11,825.60. Funding will be allocated in the FY 2021 General Fund budget. The Texas Department of Transportation will fund \$46,891.89 to pay the City for overtime salaries and benefits for enforcement efforts. Project cost will total \$58,717.49.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS, IN SUPPORT OF A TxDOT GRANT GRAND PRAIRIE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S TRAFFIC UNIT TO CONDUCT COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTIONS, CONDUCT PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$58,717.49.

WHEREAS, the Grand Prairie Police Department wishes to apply for funding this opportunity to promote detection and correction of commercial motor vehicle safety defects, commercial vehicle driver deficiencies, and unsafe motor carrier practices before they become contributing factors to crashes and hazardous materials incidents;

WHEREAS, the City will provide a cash match of \$11,825.60 to the Texas Department of Transportation;

WHEREAS, in the event of loss or misuse of TxDot funds, the City of Grand Prairie assures that the funds will be returned;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS THAT:

SECTION 1. the City Council of the City of Grand Prairie, Texas, does hereby authorize the City Manager to apply for, and accept if awarded, a grant in the amount \$58,717.49 to promote detection and correction of commercial motor vehicle safety defects, commercial vehicle driver deficiencies, and unsafe motor carrier practices before they become contributing factors to crashes and hazardous materials incidents.

SECTION 2. this Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval in accordance with the Charter of the City of Grand Prairie and it is accordingly so resolved.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS, ON THIS THE 2nd DAY OF FEBRUARY 2021.

