

DWI OFFICER GRANT

7/8/2024 GRAND RAPIDS CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION



Grant Details

1. Grant is funded through the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS)...Just like the Toward Zero Death (TZD) grant.



2. Grant currently awards up to \$150,000.00 per year for an agency to have a dedicated police officer that focuses on traffic safety enforcement. This amount will cover wages, benefits, community outreach, and traffic related training and overtime.



3. Grant has been in existence for 10 years and is unique to Minnesota with many other states showing interest in the program according to the grant coordinator.



4. Grant has specific requirements with traffic enforcement goals.





- 1. Grant started in 2014 with 12 agencies and expanded to 35 agencies in 2024 and is approved for 36 agencies in 2025.
- 2. Of the original 12 agencies, 3 remain funded each year they apply for the grant. Of the 9 that no longer are involved in the program, 8 discontinued their participation voluntarily based on staffing levels. Minneapolis PD was the only other agency that does not have the program because of an administrative decision. Only one agency was forced to be terminated from the program because they failed to submit the required reporting documents.
- 3. Grant coordinator will continue to supply funding with goals being met in the work plan.



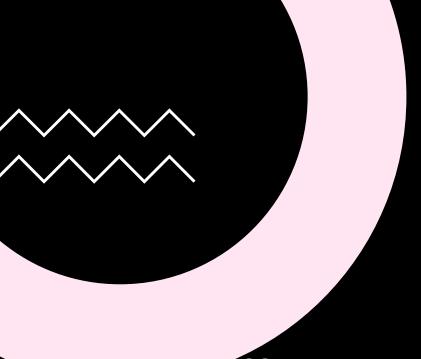
DWI Officer influence-"It's Working!!"

1. Grant is evaluated on a year-to-year basis, specifically in traffic related deaths involving impaired driving.

2. Traffic deaths caused by impaired driving went down statewide from 2022 to 2023 by 35%.

3. Hennepin and Ramsey Counties are the deadliest in the state and have DWI Officer programs. These counties experienced a reduction in impaired driving deaths by 45.8% and 63.3%, respectively in this same time frame.

4. 18 counties have a DWI Officer through this grant. These 18 counties typically account for 50% of impaired driving deaths. So far in 2024, these counties are now only accounting for 27% of the impaired driving deaths in Minnesota.



DWI Officer at GRPD-Performance measures

1. Average traffic stops per hour. State average in this grant is 1.4 stops per hour.

2. DWI arrests.
State average per
year is 64 DWI
arrests by the DWI
Officer.

3. DAR/DAS/DAC-IPS. State average per year is 76 citations by the DWI Officer.

4. Citations for speed, seat belt and distracted driving. Average per year is 165 for speed, 20 for seat belt and 60 for distracted driving.



- 1. OTS tracks fatalities and serious injuries per county. They also track these injuries occurring due to speed, distraction, impaired driving, failing to wear a seat belt and pedestrian injuries and deaths.
- 2. From 2019-2023, a five year average, Itasca Co. ranks above the state average in all these categories other than the pedestrian category.
- 3. In all fatal and serious injury crashes, Itasca Co. ranked 19th worst out of 87 counties. These crashes due to speed, Itasca Co. ranked 13th worst out of 87 counties. Crashes due to distraction, Itasca Co. ranked 17th worst (tied). Crashes due to impaired driving, Itasca Co. ranked 12th worst (tied). Crashes due to unbelted passengers/drivers, Itasca Co. ranked 14th worst.
- 4. As of July 5, 2024, fatal crashes are at 206 statewide in 2024 compared to 164 statewide during the same timeframe in 2023.

Potential costs not covered by the grant

- 1. Any time the DWI officer spends more than 15 minutes assisting other officers on non-traffic related calls. This would be very minimal as the DWI officer would not count toward our staffing minimums.
- 2. Administrative costs would be \$0 as this grant would be supported and managed by a salary employee.
- 3. Vehicle costs would be about \$15,000.00. This is due to the 20% match that is required with our traffic safety vehicle.
- 4. The DWI officer would have the ability to take other overtime shifts if they were scheduled off. This would come out of our regular overtime budget.



