REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

AGENDA DATE: March 25, 2024

AGENDA ITEM: Consider accepting a grant award of $72,325.00 from the Office of
Traffic Safety (OTS) to be used toward a traffic safety vehicle.

PREPARED BY: Kevin Ott

BACKGROUND:

The Grand Rapids Police Department (GRPD) was notified that OTS has opened a request for
proposal (RFP) for law enforcement agencies to apply for a traffic safety vehicle. The purpose
of this squad car would be to give law enforcement officers a higher vantage point when
conducting traffic enforcement. Higher vantage points allow for officers to effectively detect
distracted driving, hands free violations, seat belt violations and child passenger restraint
violations.

OTS would award up to $95,000.00 for each grant for the purchase of a traffic safety vehicle.
The vehicle is required to have a higher vantage point and will likely be a full-size truck. A local
match of 20% by the agency receiving the grant is also required.

Council supported GRPD submitting the grant during the March 11, 2024, council meeting.

On March 14, 2024, GRPD was notified by OTS that our application was successful and that we
have been awarded $72,325.00 toward a traffic safety vehicle. Our local match of 20% would
result in a commitment of $14,465.00

This purchase is not a budgeted item. Understanding the opportunity and considerable savings,
GRPD leadership has committed to utilizing Minnesota Public Safety Aid funds.

REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION:

Make a motion adopting a resolution to accept the awarded grant of $72,325.00 from the Office
of Traffic Safety (OTS) to be used toward a traffic safety vehicle and authorize the purchase of a

2024 Chevrolet Silverado from North Country GM for the state bid purchase of the vehicle in the amount of $53,586.00 plus any applicable taxes and fees. In addition, authorize police department staff to utilize the remaining amount of the grant to outfit and supply the vehicle with necessary emergency vehicle equipment.