



# CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** June 7, 2021  
**TO:** City Council Members  
**FROM:** Turu VanderWiel, Chief of Police  
**SUBJECT:** Accept a Cannabis Tax Fund Grant Program Award

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## RECOMMENDATION

Consideration to accept a Cannabis Tax Fund Grant Program (CTFGP) award and approve associated budget adjustments to the Police Department's budget unit.

## DISCUSSION

During the February 16, 2021, Sonora City Council meeting, authorization was given to apply for the Cannabis Tax Fund Grant Program and authorize the City Administrator to execute all documents relating to the grant application. Direction was given for the Police Chief to return to the City Council with the application results and accept the award.

This funding is allocated through the California Highway Patrol (CHP) Impaired Driving Section, Cannabis Grants Unit. The purpose of this grant funding is to help the Sonora Police Department reduce and mitigate the impacts of impaired driving in our community. These funds will be used for training, education, prevention, and the enforcement of laws related to DUI of alcohol and other drugs, including cannabis and cannabis products.

In November 2016, California voters passed Proposition 64, a statewide initiative legalizing the cultivation, sale, and adult use of marijuana. In 2018, adult-use and medicinal use marijuana businesses began opening in cities such as ours that chose to grant local cannabis licenses. There is substantial evidence that cannabis use increases the risk of motor vehicle crashes, and driving while under the influence of cannabis has become a significant concern for law enforcement and public safety.

The Police Department will utilize these funds to augment training and education, equipment needs, and overtime and administrative costs. The funding is for a 24-month grant cycle, and financial expenditures are reimbursed quarterly during the Fiscal Year.

## FISCAL IMPACT

The attached budget adjustment increases the overall budget appropriation of the Police Department by \$53,174.08.