

## **To the Honorable Members of the Tualatin City Council,**

I am writing to respectfully request to be added to a city council meeting to discuss the potential of annual funding for the Sober Grad Night Committee to be included in the city's budget. This initiative is a proactive measure to protect our youth, celebrate their achievements responsibly, and strengthen community ties.

### **Why Sober Grad Night Matters**

Graduation night is a joyful milestone—but it's also statistically one of the most dangerous nights for teens. Alcohol-related accidents spike during this season, often with tragic and preventable consequences. By supporting a dedicated committee of parents and community members who plan and fund sober grad night events, Tualatin can take a bold step toward ensuring our students celebrate safely and inclusively.

As the Sober Grad Night Committee, we:

- Coordinate engaging, substance-free celebrations for graduating seniors.
- Partner with local schools, businesses, and law enforcement to maximize impact and participation.
- Promote public safety and youth wellness, aligning with the city's long-term goals.
- Foster community pride and involvement through volunteer opportunities and sponsorships.

We propose annual funding to ensure continuity, growth, and the potential lives saved. This support will empower the committee to secure venues, entertainment, food, and prizes—removing financial barriers and encouraging full participation. It also enables law enforcement to shift from reactive response to proactive partnership, helping prevent tragedies before they occur.

The Tigard City Council currently allocates \$2,500 annually to the Tigard High School Grad Night Committee, funded through proceeds from the Tigard Festival of Balloons. Tualatin hosts an even more prominent event—the Pumpkin Regatta—which draws participants and spectators from around the world. This presents a unique opportunity to support our youth using a celebrated community tradition.

We urge the Council to view this request not merely as a budget item, but as a commitment to the future of Tualatin's youth. Let's make graduation night a celebration of life—not a risk to it.

Thank you for your time, leadership, and dedication to our community.

Yours Truly,

Karla Adams

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