



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: September 22, 2026

SUBJECT: Consideration and Adoption of Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control's ABC-OTS (Office of Traffic Safety) Grant Program for \$22,000

PREPARED BY: Michael Garlock, Chief of Police

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Wheatland City Council consider adoption of a resolution authorizing the acceptance of an enforcement-only grant for \$22,000 from the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control for the purpose of enforcing and educating on alcohol-related statutes with the city's alcohol establishments.

DISCUSSION:

The Wheatland Police Department has been awarded a \$22,000 enforcement-only grant from the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control ABC-OTS Grant Program from October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027. This grant allows Wheatland Police Officers to conduct operations enforcing alcohol-related statutes with licensed alcohol establishments within the City of Wheatland.

The City of Wheatland has a population of 4,300 residents over 8 square miles, some of which is undeveloped land or farmland. The real concern involves the city's geography and nearby venues. Highway 65 is the main thoroughfare in the city of Wheatland, connecting residents to the Toyota Amphitheater and Hard Rock Casino, both in the unincorporated area of Yuba County, each less than 7 miles outside the city limits. Increased traffic and visitors from these venues will mean more people frequenting licensed alcohol on- or off-sale establishments within the city.

From September 6 through November 15, 2026, Bishop's Pumpkin Farm will be open seven days a week, which can draw several thousand visitors per day, depending on the day or special event, such as movie night or fireworks. It is estimated that throughout the pumpkin season, 350,000 people, including numerous minors, will visit the pumpkin farm. The pumpkin farm also serves 6 flavors of hard cider at 5 serving venues. With this kind of activity, the police department would welcome the funding and the opportunity to work with ABC to keep alcohol violations at the pumpkin farm to a minimum, particularly by preventing the serving of minors and overserving patrons of legal drinking age.

Additionally, Wheatland High School has a student body of 1,185, and the campus is located the following distances from the following off-sale establishments.

- .4 mile from Raj's Mini Mart: 100 D Street
- .8 mile from Chevron Gas Station: 500 McDevitt Drive
- .9 mile from Dollar General: 1920 Hwy 65
- .7 mile from Wheatland Liquor: 419 4th Street
- .5 mile from Big Al's Market: 422 Main Street.

The department would work to ensure minors (under 21 years of age) are not possessing, stealing, or being sold alcohol at any of the 11 ABC-licensed establishments in the City of Wheatland, including those listed above. Enforcement and education would be conducted through IMPACT inspections and shoulder-tap programs, using minor decoy operations, including holiday enforcement. Conducting these operations will help minimize DUIs within the city, as DUIs were the top crime in the City of Wheatland in 2024, with 38, and again in 2025, with 23. Another goal is to ensure that all alcohol establishments comply with state statutes.

Accepting this grant would provide funding to enforce and educate citizens and businesses regarding alcohol violations within the City of Wheatland.

Finally, to ensure the community is aware of our facilitation and participation in enforcement operations, the Police Department is prepared to issue news releases regarding all Shoulder Tap and Minor Decoy Operations.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is de minimus fiscal impact with officers' salaries and/or overtime for alcohol-related enforcement operations being funded by the grant.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Resolution w/Exhibit