

AGENDA



Thursday, June 5, 2008

**Police
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 24**

Subject: Approve an ordinance authorizing the acceptance of \$512,138 in grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration; and amending the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Police Department Operating Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20070910-003 to appropriate \$512,138 for the High Priority grant project traffic safety programs.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$512,138 is available from the US Department of Transportation. The Austin Police Department is requesting that \$128,208 be appropriated from the FY 2008 Police Impound fund to cover the required 20% match.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: David Carter, APD Chief of Staff/974-5030

The Austin Police Department (APD) recognizes the need to improve the safety on Austin's major corridors. The Motor Carrier Administration High Priority grant program will target aggressive driving and safety in work zone areas. The grant provides overtime funds for enforcement operations on these major corridors. The city match portion of the project (20% required match) includes one time expenses such as equipment and campaign materials.

Through highly visible traffic enforcement and commercial vehicle safety inspection program in high-risk locations and corridors, APD will help reduce the unsafe driving practices of commercial and non-commercial drivers. Grant funding will also be used for a Targeting Aggressive Cars and Trucks (TACT) program that includes enforcement activity targeting hazardous driving and a strategic communications campaign.

APD's traffic enforcement will focus on hazardous driving on the five major corridors and APD will schedule road patrol with officers working seven hour shifts for an average of 21 hours a week. This will allow three additional shifts of officers to conduct traffic enforcement with a focus on daytime highway work zones and on aggressive driving.