

Donald J. Lee, Jr.

Chief of Police



Key West

POLICE DEPARTMENT

TO: Mr. Bob Vitas, City Manager

FROM: Donald J. Lee Jr., Chief of Police

DATE: April 24, 2014

RE: Authorize the Key West Police Department to apply and accept a grant from the Florida Department of Transportation Traffic Safety Office

Action Statement:

This resolution is to authorize the Key West Police Department to apply and accept a grant award from the Florida Department of Transportation, Traffic Safety Office in the amount of \$80,000.00 and amend FY 2013/2014 police general fund budget to reflect an increase of revenue and expenditure of \$80,000.00

Background:

The Florida Department of Transportation Safety Office (FDOT) funds sub-grants that address traffic safety priority areas that include Impaired Driving, Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety, Police Traffic Services and Community Traffic Safety to local agencies aimed at reducing safety deficiencies or ongoing traffic safety problems.

In March of 2013 the Key West Police Department submitted a Highway Safety Concept Paper for an enforcement and education program aimed at reducing the overall number of Bicycle, Pedestrian, and DUI crashes for the grant period October 1, 2013 to September 30th, 2014. The Key West Police Department was notified in August of 2013 that it had been selected to receive grant funding in the FY2013-14 Highway Safety Plan. However, due to the delay in this funding actually becoming available, the grant application is being submitted halfway thru the fiscal year. This will be the third consecutive Traffic Safety Grant awarded to the department. Acceptance of this grant in the amount of \$80,000.00 is to increase traffic safety in Key West by using saturation enforcement patrols and a public education campaign. The FDOT Traffic Safety Office expects the funds to become available in the next 30 days.

Purpose and Justification:

According to the 2008-2012 Highway Safety Matrix: Ranking of Florida Cities, the City of Key West is ranked #1 for Bicycle injury and fatal crashes, #1 for Pedestrian injury and fatal crashes, and #1 for Alcohol related injury and fatal crashes and #4 for all type injury and fatal crashes among small cities within the State of Florida (Group 2). This high ranking in these areas demonstrates the ongoing need for, and substantiates the City's



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application for the 2013/2014 FDOT State Safety Office, Highway Safety Grant Program. In addition, the ongoing FDOT construction project on N. Roosevelt Blvd. has resulted in a spike of traffic crashes in 2013 due to the increased use of the cities secondary roadways.

Options:

One option is to apply for and accept the FDOT Traffic Safety Grant to fund additional enforcement and education efforts in our city.

Another option is to forgo the application and acceptance of this grant resulting in a loss of traffic safety enforcement and education options to address ongoing traffic safety issues in our city.

Financial Impact:

There is no financial impact and there are no matching funds required.

Recommendation:

Authorize the Key West Police Department to apply for and accept the FDOT Traffic Safety Grant and amend the budget in the amount of \$80,000.00 when awarded and accepted.



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