

Item Title: Approve a Resolution and Agreements to Complete the WCSO's Application for Year 5 of GHSP Grant #1000024321

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners approves a resolution and agreements for the Wake County Sheriff's Office to finalize a grant application to the North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program in the amount of \$80,990 for Year 5, Grant #1000024321.

Item Summary:

Purpose: In accordance with the North Carolina Safety Grant Program requirements, the Board of Commissioners must approve a resolution and agreement of conditions authorizing the grant application.

Background: WCSO is seeking to finalize a grant application for \$323,958, which represents the final approval and funding for the FY2022-FY2026 grant cycle for traffic safety and enforcement regulations in Wake County.

The Crash Reduction Unit (CRU) will use the awarded funds to continue its efforts to lower the fatality crash rate in Wake County. The CRU is dedicated to traffic safety, enforcement, education, and other crash reduction efforts. This unit will continue to target areas of aggressive and distracted driving, along with other areas of needed enforcement related to speeding, seatbelt usage, and young driver accidents.

The allocation of these funds will support the salary and fringe benefits for three full-time equivalent (FTE) deputy sheriff positions, traffic supplies for events, as well as travel expenses to attend traffic safety conferences.

Strategic Plan: This action supports standard County operations.

Fiscal Impact: If the grant is awarded, the WCSO will bring a future agenda item to the Board of Commissioners to accept and appropriate the grant funds. The grant would require a \$242,968 match from the County. The County would satisfy the match requirement using funds appropriated in the Grants and Donations fund and the WCSO FY2026 Operating Budget.

Additional Information:

Grant Year	Federal Share	Federal Amount	Wake County Share	Wake County Amount	Total Project Cost
Year 1 (FY22)	85%	\$304,266	15%	\$53,694	\$357,960
Year 2 (FY23)	70%	\$152,619	30%	\$65,408	\$218,027
Year 3 (FY24)	50%	\$125,161	50%	\$125,161	\$250,322
Year 4 (FY25)	25%	\$67,261	75%	\$201,783	\$269,044
Year 5 (FY26)	25%	\$80,990	75%	\$242,968	\$323,958

WCSO is seeking to apply for a fifth year of GHSP grant funding to increase its efforts related to reducing the fatality crash rate in Wake County. The continuation of this grant will allow WCSO to further develop and train deputies assigned to CRU. If awarded this grant, WCSO will use these funds to cover CRU personnel and fringe benefit costs for three deputies assigned to this unit. The grant will pay for all hours used for training, supplies for outreach and educational events, and applicable travel expenses to attend conferences, both in-state and out-of-state. The efforts of this unit, along with the funding provided by this grant, will allow WCSO to continue to decrease fatal crashes.

The CRU will engage with the community to educate citizens of Wake County about the dangers of speeding, driving while intoxicated, distracted driving, and unrestrained driving. The CRU will also focus on continuing to target areas of aggressive and distracted driving, along with the other areas of needed enforcement, such as speeding, seatbelt usage, driving while impaired (DWI), and young driver accidents. To identify these specific target enforcement areas, WCSO will use the Safety Dashboard – NC Vision Zero provided by North Carolina Department of Transportation to pinpoint target enforcement areas within our jurisdiction.

Once the grant performance period has concluded, WCSO will have the opportunity to re-apply for another grant or to request that the CRU funding (i.e., enforcement officers and related requested expenditures) be appropriated in the WCSO General Fund budget.

Attachments:

1. Resolution
2. Agreement of Conditions
3. Agreement of Conditions Addendum