

Item Title: Approve the Wake County Sheriff's Office to File an Application for Funding to the North Carolina Department of Transportation for Year 2 of a Governor's Highway Safety Program Grant

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners signs the attached Resolution which authorizes the Wake County Sheriff's Office to file an application for funding in the amount of \$152,619 starting in FY 2023 from the North Carolina Department of Transportation's Governor's Highway Safety Program.

Item Summary:

Purpose: The Board of Commissioners must accept and appropriate all grant funding awarded to the County during the fiscal year.

Background: On June 21, 2021 the Board of Commissioners approved a resolution authorizing the Wake County Manager to file for a Governor's Highway Safety Program (GHSP) Grant in the amount of \$304,266 for Year 1 of a three-year grant program. Wake County was notified on August 23, 2021 that it was awarded this funding.

The initial funding award allowed the WCSO to form a Crash Reduction Unit (CRU) of three positions with related vehicles and equipment. This specialized unit is dedicated to traffic safety, enforcement, education, and other crash reduction efforts. The CRU targets areas of aggressive and distracted driving, along with other areas of needed enforcement such as speeding, seatbelt usage and young driver accidents.

The allocation for Year 2, totaling nearly \$153,000, will continue to fund the costs of the three deputy positions, supplies and related expenses. This action approves the WCSO application for Year 2 funds.

Board Goal: This action supports routine County operations.

Fiscal Impact: The total cost for the second year of the Crash Reduction Unit will be \$218,027. The federal grant would cover 70 percent of the costs (\$152,619). The grant requires a 30 percent County match totaling \$65,408, which would be met with funds already budgeted in the Sheriff's FY 2023 Adopted Budget.

If awarded in FY 2023, the WCSO may reapply for continuation of federal funding for the program in FY 2024, with the County share of costs increasing to 50 percent. Ongoing County costs related to this program will be considered as part of the FY 2025 budget development process.

Additional Information:

Governor's Highway Safety Program

The Governor's Highway Safety Program (GHSP) is a state administered program housed within the North Carolina Department of Transportation. The GHSP helps fund the efforts of law enforcement agencies, local governments, community organizations, schools, and nonprofits to reduce traffic crashes in North Carolina. The GHSP allocates federal grants to local agencies to address the following areas of highway safety:

- Drunk driving
- Seat belt safety
- Police traffic services
- Young drivers
- Motorcycle safety
- Traffic record keeping
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WCSO Program Goals

Wake County continues to rank within the top three counties across the state of North Carolina in every category in the GHSP data report. Between 2016 and 2020, Wake County averaged 71.8 traffic related fatalities, 9.2 young driver involved fatal crashes and 18 unrestrained fatalities, ranking second in the state in all three categories; 59.2 persons seriously injured in speed-related crashes, ranking first in the state. In addition, there is a noticeably higher number of fatal related crashes (67.2) compared to adjacent counties: Johnston (33), Durham (29.8), Harnett (27.4), Franklin (14), and Chatham (11).

The goals of the Crash Reduction Unit, detailed in the grant application, include:

- Reduce the number of fatal crashes in Wake County by 10% from the 2016-2020 average of 67.2 to 60 by September 30, 2023.
- Reduce the number of speed related crashes in Wake County from the 2016-2020 5-year average of 1,543.4 by 10% to 1,389 by September 30, 2023.
- Reduce the number of young driver fatal crashes in Wake County from the 2016-2020 5-year average of 9.2 by 10% to 8 by September 30, 2023.

Cost Details

The GHSP grant covers 70% of the total program costs in the second year, and 50% in the third year. The Sheriff's Office may reapply for continuation of the federal funding for FY 2024. The tables below detail the share breakdown and the program cost of the second year of the program along with a breakdown of the funding sources.

Grant Year	Federal Share	Wake County Share
Year 2 – FY 2023	70%	30%
Year 3 – FY 2023	50%	50%

Year 2 - Program Budget			
Category	Federal Share	Wake County Share	Total
Salary and Benefits (3 Deputies)	\$148,366.00	\$63,586	\$211,952.00
Supplies	\$1,103	\$472.00	\$1,575.00
Training and Development / Travel	\$3,150.00	\$1,350.00	\$4,500.00
Total	\$152,619.00	\$65,408.00	\$218,027.00

Attachments:

1. Resolution
2. Approved Application
3. Agreement of Conditions