



# Council Agenda Report

**From:** Brian Lewis, Battalion Chief

**Subject:** Acceptance of Office of Traffic Safety Grant Award

CEQA Determination: The City find that this action is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to State Guidelines Section State CEQA Guidelines, §§ 15060, subd. (b)(2)-(3), 15378.

**Date:** January 17, 2023

---

## Facts

1. Paso Robles Fire and Emergency Services (PRFES) submitted a \$117,000 grant request to the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) through the Regional Crash Response and Extrication Improvement Program.
2. The requested funds will enhance extrication equipment currently carried on responding apparatus, some of which were purchased more than 20 years ago.
3. The changes available in current extrication equipment allow PRFES to extricate and stabilize emergency scenes faster and far more efficiently than before.
4. The OTS grant will cover the cost of the new equipment with no matching funds required.
5. In order for the City to receive the grant funds, City Council must formally accept the grant and authorize the City Manager to purchase the equipment listed below with full reimbursement from OTS.

## Options

1. Take no action; or
2. Authorize the acceptance of the OTS Regional Crash Response and Extrication Improvement Program grant funding and purchase of extrication equipment in compliance with the grant requirements; or
3. Amend or modify the resolution as submitted; or
4. Provide alternative direction to staff.

## Analysis and Conclusions

The grant process was complex and competitive. PRFES was required to demonstrate the need for the grant request and the positive benefits that would be provided to the community of Paso Robles and its regional partners. Over the last 20 years, automotive manufactures have significantly improved safety standards for vehicle occupants. Many vehicles are now reinforced with materials that far exceed the capabilities of our current extrication equipment. The department will continue to track and evaluate response and extrication times on an annual basis.

## Fiscal Impact

The total grant award is \$117,000, to be used toward the purchase of extrication equipment. There is no matching requirement.

## CEQA

The OTS Grant equipment purchase is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") because it has no potential to result in either a direct, or reasonably foreseeable indirect, physical

change in the environment. (State CEQA Guidelines, §§ 15060, subd. (b)(2)-(3), 15378 subd. (b)(2).) Continuing administrative or maintenance activities—such as purchases for supplies, personnel-related actions, and general policy and procedure making—do not qualify as a project under CEQA. (State CEQA Guidelines, § 15378, subd. (b)(2).) The replacement of extrication equipment has no reasonably foreseeable direct or indirect change on the environment.

**Recommendation**

Approve Resolution 23-XXX, authorizing the acceptance of the OTS Regional Crash Response and Extrication Improvement Program

**Attachments**

1. Resolution 23-XXX
  - a. Exhibit A - Award Letter Office of Traffic Safety
  - b. Exhibit B – OTS Grant Application Information Equipment Purchase List