



Council Agenda Report

From: Ricky Lehr, Police Sergeant

Subject: Approval of the Acceptance of the Tobacco Grant Program Award – Fiscal Years 2023-24 and 2024-25

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

Date: February 21, 2023

Facts

1. The Paso Robles Police Department (PRPD) submitted a grant application to the California Department of Justice (DOJ) Tobacco Grant Program for the Fiscal Years (FY) 2023-24 and 2024-25 to conduct decoy operations and compliance checks to ensure local tobacco retailers are not selling to minors (see Attachment No. 1 for further details about the grant program).
2. The grant award totals \$30,492 and funds will be utilized to perform three operations annually over a two-year period, totaling six operations. The grant completely pays for itself with no matching funds to the City.
3. PRPD has been notified that the grant request has been awarded; but in order for the City to receive these grant funds, a City Council Resolution must be approved.

Options

1. Take no action;
2. Accept funds from the California Department of Justice Grant Program; or
3. Provide alternate direction to staff.

Analysis and Conclusions

Youth tobacco use has recently become a greater concern. Within the last year, PRPD has issued 25 citations at our local high school for minors in possession of illegal tobacco devises. There are currently 23 tobacco retailers within the City's jurisdiction and according to the State of Tobacco Control 2022- California Local Grades, the City received a D for overall Tobacco Control Grade, as well as F's for reducing Sales of Tobacco Products and Restrictions on Flavored Tobacco Products. This highlights the City's need to conduct operations to curb tobacco use by minors. According to the San Luis Obispo County's health data statistics, 7% of youth smoke and 22% of youth vape in the City of Paso Robles. This figure has greatly increased since the last recorded value of 14% of youth who vape. The acceptance of this grant would allow PRPD to conduct minor decoy and compliance checks to ensure local tobacco retailers are not selling to minors. Success will be measured by an annual reduction of violations.

Fiscal Impact

This is a two-year grant program with no local match requirement. The city will be reimbursed up to \$30,492 for decoy and compliance check operations.

Recommendation

Approve Resolution 23-XXX, authorizing the City to accept the grant funding from the California Department of Justice Grant Program for the grant years of 2023-24 and 2024-25.

Attachments

1. Resolution 23-XXX
 - a. Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Paso Robles and the California Department of Justice