



TO: Mayor and City Council  
THROUGH:   
Robert G. Wells  
City Manager  
FROM: Gerald Moore   
Chief of Police  
SUBJECT: Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Construction Zone  
Enforcement Grant

ISSUE:

Should the Salem Police Department apply for, and if granted, accept \$10,000 from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to fund overtime enforcement of traffic laws on Interstate 5 in the Kuebler Blv. construction zone?

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends City Council approve application and acceptance of grant money allocated to the Salem Police Department to fund traffic enforcement overtime.

BACKGROUND:

ODOT has traditionally allocated enforcement grant funds received from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) for work zone enforcement to the Oregon State Police. Work zone safety is critical for not only the people working in the work zone but for the motoring public as well. In the past three years there have been 37 fatalities in Oregon work zones. ODOT has determined that the Kuebler Blv. construction zone merits extending overtime enforcement grants to agencies other than the Oregon State Police due to its size, length of time, and hazards present.

In March, 2007, City Council authorized acceptance of this grant for FY 06/07. This request covers acceptance of the same grant for FY 07/08.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. The Salem Police Department is committed to traffic safety and traffic enforcement and to projects which enhance community-wide traffic safety.
2. Traffic problems in the I-5/Kuebler Blv. construction zone would cause major impacts to City resources as traffic would be diverted onto surface streets.

3. This grant will allow the Salem Police Department to participate in directed traffic enforcement projects without interfering in normal everyday traffic enforcement within the City.
4. This grant would pay full encumbered overtime rate for officers working traffic enforcement in the construction zone.
5. There is a \$2,640 match, which will be met through daily traffic enforcement.