

DATE: March 27, 2007

TO: Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Police Department

SUBJECT: **RESOLUTION NO. 8023 –A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO ACCEPT A TRAFFIC GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$23,890.80 FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY FOR THE SEATBELT AND CHILD SAFETY SEAT ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM**

BACKGROUND / ISSUE

Recent surveys show that Folsom's seat belt use rate is 94%, which is higher than the statewide average. However, recent traffic fatalities and major injury accidents within the City can be attributed to lack of seatbelt use.

In 2004, 46.8 percent of all vehicle occupants killed in crashes were unbelted. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that 671 of 1,443 unbelted vehicle occupants killed would have survived, had they simply chosen to buckle up. California's 2003 child safety seat usage rate was 86.6%, up from 85.6% in 2002. Misuse is estimated to be 80%. The 2005 & 2006 statistics are not yet available.

The California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) awards grants to local law enforcement agencies that participate in the California Seat Belt Compliance Campaign during a three-week period each year. This year, the three-week period will begin on May 14, 2007 and end on June 3, 2007. During this time frame, OTS will reimburse the Folsom Police Department for up to \$23,890.80 (266 hours of officer overtime and 24 hours of sergeant overtime) in employee overtime related to the strict enforcement of seat belt and child safety seat violations. Officers working this overtime must devote 100% of their time to seatbelt enforcement.

The goal of the California Seat Belt Compliance Campaign is to increase seat belt use statewide to 93.7% in 2007. The strategy is to focus public information and enforcement on persons who fail to use seat belts during the June campaign.

POLICY / RULE

This grant acceptance requires City Council approval.

ANALYSIS

During a three-week period in May/June 2006, Folsom Police officers worked 360 hours of overtime dedicated to seat belt enforcement. The overtime funding was provided through the Seatbelt and Child Safety Seat Enforcement Program in 2006. Efforts by officers resulted in 268 traffic citations being issued to motorists who failed to buckle up. A survey conducted in September of 2006 revealed that 94% of Folsom's motorists were wearing seat belts. This compliance is directly related to the Folsom Police Department's diligent seat belt enforcement.

By participating in the California Seat Belt Compliance Campaign, the Folsom Police Department hopes to encourage even greater seat belt use in the City of Folsom and reduce the number of injuries and fatalities attributed to the lack of seat belt use.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this grant. Overtime costs related to seatbelt enforcement will be reimbursed by the State of California Office of Traffic Safety.

ATTACHMENT

Resolution No. 8023 – A Resolution Authorizing the Police Department to Accept a Grant in the Amount of \$23,890.80 from the State of California Office of Traffic Safety for the Seatbelt and Child Safety Seat Enforcement Program

RECOMMENDATION / CITY COUNCIL ACTION

The Police Department requests the City Council approve Resolution No. 8023 – A Resolution Authorizing the Police Department to Accept a Grant in the Amount of \$23,890.80 from the State of California Office of Traffic Safety for the Seatbelt and Child Safety Seat Enforcement Program

Submitted,


Larry Saunders, Captain

RESOLUTION NO. 8023

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO ACCEPT
A TRAFFIC GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$23,890.80 FROM THE STATE OF
CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY FOR THE SEATBELT AND
CHILD SAFETY SEAT ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM AND THE
APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS**

WHEREAS, the goal of the California Seat Belt Compliance Campaign for local law enforcement agencies is to increase seat belt and child safety seat usage and to reduce the number of victims injured or killed in traffic collisions; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Folsom Police Department is requesting authorization to accept a grant for participation in the California Seat Belt Compliance Campaign; and,

WHEREAS, the grant monies will be used to reimburse personnel overtime costs incurred during a twenty-one day period in May and June 2007, in support of the California Seat Belt Compliance Campaign.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Folsom hereby authorizes the acceptance of a grant in the amount of \$23,890.80 from the State of California Office of Traffic Safety for participation in the California Seat Belt Compliance Campaign for local law enforcement agencies. The City Manager or his designee, is hereby authorized to and empowered to execute in the name of the City of Folsom all necessary applications, contracts, agreements, amendments, and payment requests hereto for the purposes of securing grant funds and to implement and carry out the purposes specified in the grant application.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 27th day of March 2007, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Andrew J. Morin, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Christa Schmidt, CITY CLERK