



## **CITY OF SALINAS COUNCIL STAFF REPORT**

---

**DATE:** SEPTEMBER 28, 2021

**DEPARTMENT:** POLICE SERVICE OF SALINAS

**FROM:** ROBERTO FILICE, INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE

**BY:** ROBERT HAMPSON, POLICE SERGEANT

**TITLE:** CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANT FOR  
THE SELECTIVE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

### RECOMMENDED MOTION:

A motion to approve a Resolution accepting the 2022 California Office of Traffic Safety grant for the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) and authorize the execution of all grant acceptance documents.

### RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council approve a Resolution accepting the 2022 California Office of Traffic Safety grant in the amount of \$155,000.00 for the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) and authorize the execution of all grant acceptance documents.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The 2022 California Office of Traffic Safety grant for the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) will provide much needed funds in the amount of \$155,000.00. These funds will be used to support targeted traffic enforcement and education to reduce the number of people killed and injured in traffic collisions, both alcohol-related and non-alcohol related. This grant will be used to fund police officer overtime for several types of traffic safety-related enforcement operations as well as to provide education to police officers to make them more effective traffic enforcers and to provide education to the public to make them safer drivers and pedestrians.

### BACKGROUND:

Annually the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) makes funds available to local agencies to further their traffic enforcement and education efforts. The Police Service of Salinas applied for and is tentatively awarded OTS grant funding in the amount of \$155,000.00 to aid in its efforts to reduce the number of people killed and injured in traffic collisions, both alcohol-related and non-alcohol related. The Police Service has received OTS grant funding continually for the last 8 years

to support DUI and traffic enforcement through the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP).

This STEP grant will target problems that include speed violations, distracted driving, red-light violations, pedestrian/vehicle right-of-way violations, and enforcement at locations with a high instance of collisions and injuries. The grant will also provide funding for DUI saturation patrols, Distracted Driving patrols, and Sobriety Checkpoints.

The grant funds will enable the Police Service of Salinas to employ “best practice strategies” on an overtime basis. To further deter serious traffic collisions, injuries and fatalities, the Police Service will use the grant funds to conduct traffic enforcement operations targeting distracted drivers and other violations that have shown to be the proximate cause of collisions in Salinas. The Police Service of Salinas will also use the grant funds as reimbursement for training and travel expenses associated with the Department’s traffic enforcement efforts.

The grant period runs from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

CEQA CONSIDERATION:

**Not a Project.** The City of Salinas has determined that the proposed action is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378).

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE:

Approving the proposed Resolution is consistent with the City Council’s goals of Operational Efficiencies and Public Safety.

DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION:

The Police Service will work with the Legal Department during approval, and with the Finance Department during implementation.

FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

Proposed funding from the 2022 Office of Traffic Safety is \$155,000.00, all of which will be used to support the Police Service of Salinas’ efforts to reduce the number of traffic collisions and fatalities. No matching funds are required from the City of Salinas to receive the grant funds. No impact to the City’s General Fund is anticipated with the recommended actions.

ATTACHMENTS:

2022 OTS-STEP Council Resolution  
2022 OTS-STEP Grant Agreement