

EXPLANATION TO COUNCIL BILL 2020- 233

FILED: 09-29-20

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Police Department

PURPOSE: Authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to accept a grant from the Missouri Department of Transportation in the amount of \$21,120.00 to be used by the Police Department for the purpose of conducting Hazardous Moving Violation Enforcement to promote pedestrian safety; and declaring that this bill qualifies for approval in one reading pursuant to City Charter Section 2.16(25).

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Pedestrian safety is a consistent area of concern for the City of Springfield. During the time period of 2017-2019 the Springfield Police Department investigated 265 motor vehicle crashes involving pedestrians. Of those 265 crashes, 242 involved some level of injury and 13 resulted in fatalities.

In 2017 the City of Springfield launched a pedestrian safety campaign referred to as "SGF Yields." The primary focus has been on educating motorists on pedestrian crosswalk compliance while encouraging pedestrians to make use of crosswalks. As part of the public safety campaign, City of Springfield Public Works employees have conducted driver compliance studies at crosswalks located throughout the City of Springfield. This is a timed study in which a plain-clothes employee mimics approaching and entering a pedestrian crosswalk to measure driver compliance. In 2017 and 2018 these studies indicated only approximately 25 percent compliance on the part of drivers yielding to pedestrians.

The purpose of this grant is to conduct high visibility enforcement of pedestrian safety laws at specified locations to increase compliance of drivers yielding to pedestrians.

REMARKS: This grant was applied for prior to the current budget year and was included in the Police Department's Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget, therefore no budget adjustment is necessary.

Submitted by:

Approved by:



Paul Williams, Chief of Police



Jason Gage, City Manager

Exhibit A

