

EXPLANATION TO COUNCIL BILL 2020- 234

FILED: 09-29-20

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Police

PURPOSE: To authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to accept a grant from the Missouri Department of Transportation in the amount of \$12,230.00 to be used by the Police Department for the purpose of providing a Civilian Motorcycle Safety Training Course; and declaring that this bill qualifies for approval in one reading pursuant to City Charter Section 2.16(25).

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Motorcyclist safety and motorcycle involved crashes are a consistent issue nationally and for the City of Springfield. During the time period of 2017-2019 the Springfield Police Department investigated 383 motor vehicle crashes involving a motorcycle. Of those motorcycle involved crashes, 291 (75%) involved some degree of reported injury. During the same time period, the Springfield Police Department investigated 50 fatal motor vehicle crashes. Of those fatal crashes, 15 (30%) involved motorcycle riders.

The purpose of this grant is to create a civilian motorcycle safety course in which Police Department motorcycle instructors and motorcycle qualified officers would provide instruction to civilians on safe motorcycle operation through the use of a coned course. Civilians would be taught fundamentals such as Head and Eyes (where your head/eyes turn, the motorcycle will turn), Gray Zone (clutch/throttle control), braking in a curve, and proper braking techniques. Students would also be provided with information on the importance of proper motorcycle safety equipment to reduce the risk of injuries related to motorcycle crashes.

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

