



CITY OF BETHLEHEM  
OFFICE OF THE CITY SOLICITOR

---

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM


To: Louise M. Kelchner, City Clerk  
From: William P. Leeson, Esq., City Solicitor  
Re: Highway Safety Project Grant  
Contract No. IDP-2017-Bethlehem City-00022  
Date: August 31, 2016

---

Attached is a copy of the Highway Safety Project Grant Proposal and Budget Summary submitted by the Bethlehem Police Department to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Transportation in connection with Impaired Driving Program Contract No. IDP-2017-Bethlehem City-00022. Upon approval, this grant will provide funds through September 30, 2017 for DUI program sobriety checkpoints and expanded DUI enforcement operations. In order for PennDOT to process the City's grant proposal and approve the same, an authorizing resolution is required to be submitted, along with the completed and signed Project Director Authorization form.

Attached is the necessary resolution for Council's consideration.

Please place this matter on City Council's agenda for review and appropriate action.

  
William P. Leeson, Esq., Solicitor

Cc: Robert J. Donchez, Mayor  
Chief Mark A. Diluzio, Police  
Sgt. Ronald Brazinski, Police Traffic Unit



PROJECT DIRECTOR AUTHORIZATION

PROJECT NUMBER: IDP-2017-Bethlehem City-00022  
GRANTEE: Bethlehem City  
COUNTY: Northampton  
TITLE OF GRANT: City of Bethlehem Police Department DUI Proposal

\*PROJECT DIRECTOR:

NAME: Sergeant Ronald Brazinski  
TITLE: Sergeant - Traffic Unit  
ADDRESS: 10 East Church Street  
Bethlehem, PA 18018  
TELEPHONE: 610-865-7155  
FAX: 610-865-2462  
EMAIL ADDRESS: rbrazinski@bethlehem-pa.gov

\*The Project Director designated must be a governmental employee actively involved in the management and administration of the project.

APPROVED BY:

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorizing Official  
Print or type name: Robert J. Donchez, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Controller

If a change in Project Director or Authorizing Official occurs, please call (717) 787-6853 or send written notification to:

Bureau of Highway Safety and Traffic Engineering  
Safety Management Division  
Commonwealth Keystone Building - 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, 400 North Street  
P.O. Box 2047  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2047

**Cover Page**

**Applicant Agency** BETHLEHEM CITY (48301)  
**Project Title** City of Bethlehem Police DUI 2016/2017  
**Sponsoring Grant Agency (if applicable)**  
**Person who prepared this application** Ronald Brazinski  
**SAP Billing Code** 000

Please describe the project or task force in general and the success or results or previous grants. Provide information on the population and demographics or the area involved in the project, etc.

Also explain partnerships within the task force or project (i.e., working with PSP and other local departments.) In addition, provide information on the training experiences and needs in SFST and PennDOT checkpoint training.

All personnel working the sobriety checkpoints, roving patrols, mobile awareness patrols, and cops in shops will be sworn City of Bethlehem Police Officers and will be trained in Standardized Field Sobriety testing, and any other training required to participate in the DUI activities. The DUI Coordinator, or his designee, will be present at every sobriety checkpoint. The coordinator will ensure that checkpoint is conducted according to any applicable standard operating procedures set by the City of Bethlehem. Sobriety Checkpoints and roving patrols will be conducted weather permitting, the cops in shops activities will be held at strategic times and locations. Statistical data from each event will be submitted by the project coordinator to PennDot for evaluation. The coordinator will also schedule any educational or media related events during the grant period. All motorists coming through the sobriety checkpoints will receive educational materials about the dangers of DUI and usage of seat belts. All vehicle occupants will be wearing his/her seatbelt before leaving a checkpoint. All officers working with the City of Bethlehem Police Department will be required to be trained in the Standard Field Sobriety Testing (SFST). The project coordinator will be responsible for keeping track of participating officers training requirements. All

**ProjectDescription continued**

SFST trained officers will be required to take a refresher course every two years and new recruits will be required to participate in the full SFST training approved by PENNDOT.

## PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION

Please describe the impaired driving-related highway safety problems in the communities or areas under the project jurisdiction. Reveal the problem through examples of PennDOT supplied crash data as well as local crash enforcement data. It is important to identify roadways with a high number of alcohol-related crashes and incidents.

According to the Pennsylvania Crash Information Tool, Northampton County had 294 reportable alcohol related crashes. Most times roadway conditions were dry, minor injuries were sustained and driver hit a fixed object. Analyzing time of crashes is imperative to appropriately and strategically planning a DUI event. The PENNDOT crash data indicates that high alcohol related crash times are between the hours of 8 pm and 4 am with a significant increase of crashes between Midnight and 2 am and most frequent crashes occurred Saturday, Sunday and Friday respectively. Times of DUI events will be changed to coincide with the data. When analyzing the roadways indicated by PENNDOT that have a high prevalence for alcohol related crashes and comparing them with our local data, similarities of roadways exist; however, certain roadways such as Union Blvd. and Broad St., which are feeder roads to identified roadways, did not meet the threshold indicated by PENNDOT crash statistics but need to be targeted in an effort to keep the DUI crash rates down. It is perceived that since there is currently targeted enforcement presence on these roadways, it would be a detriment not to continue enforcement in some capacity. In an effort to reduce crashes/fatalities on these identified roadways, the City of Bethlehem, Police Department will concentrate efforts on

**ProblemIdentification continued**

all roadways indicated as high crash roadways via the PENNDOT crash data; nonetheless, locally identified problematic roadways will also be targeted.

Alcohol related crashes/fatalities and drinking driver crashes/fatalities continue to be an issue at the forefront in Northampton county. The City of Bethlehem Police Department has experienced a tremendous increase in traffic volume in recent years and will continue to experience the high volume effects with continued development of the former Bethlehem Steel site into a Casino and resort complex. The Casino itself brings on average 2,000 visitors a day into Bethlehem. All of them are of the drinking age. The increase in population in the city and in close proximity thereof has led to increased potential of DUI related incidences.

In Bethlehem, there were no alcohol related fatal crashes in 2013 and 2014, two (2) fatalities in 2015 (one alcohol and one drug), and only one (1) in 2012. Statistics show in 2014 that although there were no fatal DUI drivers, there were 120 DUI related accidents resulting in injury an increase in 9 crashes from 2013. In 2015 there were 120 DUI related accidents. In 2014 there were 383 persons arrested for DUI a decrease in 114 arrests from 2013. In 2015 there were 417 persons arrested for DUI an increase of 34 arrests from 2014. Utilizing the 2015/2016 IDP grant, Bethlehem conducted 10 IDP checkpoint events (one more than 2014), there were 3,404 contacts (up 2,144 contacts from 2014, 25 people arrested for DUI, 5 persons arrested for DUI-D, 4 persons arrested for Drug Offenses, 99 citations issued, and 94 written warnings were issued. During that time there were 7 Roving patrol events conducted (increase of 1 event) resulting in 125 vehicle contacts and 8 DUI arrests (an increase of 4 arrests), 3 NON-DUI related arrests, 40 citations and 83 written warnings were issued. The grant also funded, 5 Mobile Awareness Patrols where 4,428 vehicles were counted. Two (2) Cops in Shops Details were completed.

## PROGRAM GOALS

Please provide the goal(s) of the project as well as the program objectives. The goal(s) should be a general end result for the project. Some examples of program goals are: "reduce impaired driving crashes", "increase seat belt usage", or "decrease aggressive driving crashes". Objectives measure the success of the program. They are specific targets that are measurable and attainable in a given period of time. Some examples of program objectives are: "to increase contacts by 10%", "to reduce impaired driving related crashes by 8%", or "to increase the seat belt rate 4%".

Goal: Reducing Impaired (DUI) Driving

### **Objectives for this goal**

To reduce the number of persons driving under the influence by 5% on identified problem roadway by September 30, 2017. Conduct 9 Low Staffing DUI Sobriety Checkpoint Operations which are one way stops. A total of 12 police officers will be involved in each DUI Checkpoint Operation including the DUI Checkpoint Operation coordinator and co-coordinator. Peripheral patrols will be assigned to patrol parallel routes to attempt to identify those DUI offenders who attempt to avoid apprehension in the checkpoint. Drivers will be momentarily stopped and interviewed by line officers, who will be examining operators for alcohol and drug impairment.

Potentially impairment persons will be directed to a secondary testing area where the operator will undergo the SFST and/or PBT, non impaired drivers will be free to resume their travels. All drivers stopped after a brief, approximately 30 second, conversation with the line officer and do not display signs of alcohol or drug impairment would be free to continue their travels. All motorists will be wearing their safety belt before leaving the checkpoint.

Collaborate with Lower Saucon Police Department and Colonial Regional Police Department to provide adequate manpower and equipment to assure the appropriate number of officers are present for one Training and travel funds will allow the project coordinator and co-coordinator to attend the DUI conference and the mandatory meeting provided by PENNDOT, which will enable the project manager/coordinator to stay abreast of the new and upcoming issues related to checkpoint



**Description continued**

operations, DUI trends, and advanced technology.

**BUDGET NARRATIVE**

Use this section to provide any necessary explanations of the proposed budget (i.e., if there are multiple coordinators or equipment needs.)

In an effort to execute effective checkpoint operations under the City of Bethlehem Police Department, it is necessary to fund officers on an overtime status. The salaries include overtime for the project coordinator at a total of 81 hours, co-coordinator at a total of 54 hours, checkpoint officers for a total of 360 hours, roving patrol officers at a total of 128 hours, and cops in shops officers for a total of 8 hours.

Communications Personnel is required for a total of 59.5 hours so that the DUI operation is expedited and continues to operate efficiently and effectively. An efficiently run operation ensures increased interventions with motorists; thereby, increasing awareness/detection and subsequently decreasing driving while under the influence injuries, crashes and/or fatalities.

Equipment purchases for the City of Bethlehem Police Department are necessary to ensure every DUI checkpoint operates competently and proficiently. Justifications for the requested equipment items are as follows: PBT straws, PBT *ds*, flashlights, bulbs and batteries to replace expendible items to assure all equipment is fully operational for each checkpoint; and halogen light stands to replace current worn

**Narrative continued**

out ones.

Training and travel funds will allow the project coordinator and co-coordinator to attend the DUI conference and the mandatory meeting provided by PENNDOT, which will enable the project manager/coordinator to stay abreast of the new and upcoming issues related to checkpoint operations, DUI trends, and advanced technology.

**SALARIES AND BENEFITS**

**Position / Title** Co-coordinator

**Hours** 54

**Rate** \$56.74

**Total** \$3,063.96

**Fringe Amount** \$0

**Fringe Rate** 0 %

**Job Description**

Assist checkpoint coordinator coordinate all DUI activities related to this proposal, Operate mobile command center, assist with placing pavement marking on roadways and perform OIC duties.

**SALARIES AND BENEFITS**

**Position / Title** Coordinator

**Hours** 81

**Rate** \$56.74

**Total** \$4,595.94

**Fringe Amount** \$0

**Fringe Rate** 0 %

**Job Description**

Coordinate all DUI activities related to this proposal. Will submit all administrative reports, coordinate all Law Enforcement activities, purchase and maintain equipment, justify sobriety checkpoint locations and attend to any other issues related to this project.

**SALARIES AND BENEFITS**

**Position / Title** Dispatcher

**Hours** 59.5

**Rate** \$36.00

**Total** \$2,142.00

**Fringe Amount** \$0

**Fringe Rate** 0 %

**Job Description**

Dispatcher designated to effectively and efficiently communicate with officers during the checkpoint operation and roving patrols.

**TRAVEL**

**Name** Lodging

**Amount** \$600.00

**Description /Justification**

Hotel accommodations for required conferences and trainings. (\$  
150.00/ night)

**TRAVEL**

**Name** Mileage

**Amount** \$300.00

**Description /Justification**

Fuel and tolls to attend required conference and trainings. (Based on 0.54/mile)



**TRAVEL**

**Name** Subsistence

**Amount** \$363.00

**Description /Justification**

Meals for Coordinator and Co-coordinator while attending required trainings and conference. \$ 45.00/day per persons

**EQUIPMENT**

Please include each type of equipment separately.

**Item** Halogen Lights

**Amount** \$50.00

**Description / Justification**

Bulbs and repairs for halogen light stands

**EQUIPMENT**

Please include each type of equipment separately.

**Item** PBT Equipment

**Amount** \$500.00

**Description / Justification**

Replace or repair existing PBT equipment

**EQUIPMENT**

Please include each type of equipment separately.

**Item** PBT Straws

**Amount** \$240.00

**Description / Justification**

Purchase 1,000 testing straws for PBT's @ \$0.24.

**OVERTIME ENFORCEMENT**

**Type** Cops in Shops Officers

**Provide description of average hourly rate, duration, and number of officers**

Two Officers to staff a 4 hour event at an average rate of \$56.74 per hour pe

**No. of Events** 1

**Total** \$453.92

**OVERTIME ENFORCEMENT**

**Type**                    Low Staffing Sobriety Checkpoint

**Provide description of average hourly rate, duration, and number of officers**

10 Officers to staff a 4 hr DUI Checkpoint at an average of \$56.74 per hour p

**No. of Events**    9

**Total**                \$20,426.40

**OVERTIME ENFORCEMENT**

**Type**                    Roving Patrol Officers

**Provide description of average hourly rate, duration, and number of officers**

4 officers to staff a 4 hour roving patrol at an average rate of \$56.74 per h

**No. of Events** 8

**Total**                    \$7,262.72

**BUDGET SUMMARY**

Budget	BHSTE Share
1. Salaries and Wages	\$9,801.90
2. Employee Benefits	\$0
3. Travel	\$1,263.00
4. Contractual Services	
5. Equipment	\$790.00
6. Good and Services	
7. Overtime Enforcement	\$28,143.04
8. Indirect Cost	
Total Project Cost	\$39,997.94