



# MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** Mayor and City Councilors

**FROM:** Rich Olson, City Manager  
Eddie M. Buffalo, Jr. Chief of Police

**DATE:** January 7, 2016

**RE:** Consideration – Authorization to Submit Application for Governor’s Highway Safety Program Grant

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***BACKGROUND:***

The Elizabeth City Police Department continues to seek grant funding opportunities through outside sources including federal, state, local, and private entities. The North Carolina Governor’s Highway Safety Program began accepting grant applications for FY 2016 beginning January 1, 2016. These funds provide monies to be used toward the purchase of much needed traffic safety equipment. This particular funding opportunity would help the Elizabeth City Police Department enhance its highway safety program by decreasing crashes involving fatalities and injuries and increase traffic enforcement involving speeding, DWI, seatbelt and child restraint violations. The Elizabeth City Police Department wishes to receive approval to submit an application directly to the NCGHSP for this funding so that the opportunity to receive grant monies is not missed.

***ANALYSIS:***

The North Carolina Governor’s Highway Safety Program grant for FY 2016 allows for purchase of traffic equipment. If Elizabeth City Police Department is approved for funding under this equipment grant, the Elizabeth City Police Department would be responsible for a 25% match of the cost and the North Carolina Governor’s Highway Safety Program would cover the remaining 75%. The requested equipment includes, one speed trailer, five radar units, and five mobile data terminals for a total of \$54,500.00. Out of this total amount, the City’s portion is \$13,625.00 and NCGHSP will cover a total of \$40,875.00. There is no budget impact during FY 15-16. Award announcements for this particular grant are not expected until September, possibly

October of 2016. Therefore, if this grant application is awarded, funding for the 25% City match would need to be appropriated in the FY 16-17 fiscal budget year.

***FINANCIAL:***

The Finance Committee discussed this matter during their meeting of January 7, 2016. Upon motion made by Mayor Peel, seconded by Councilman Donnelly, the committee unanimously recommended approval by the City Council.

***STAFF RECOMMENDATION:***

By motion, authorize submission of a preliminary grant application to the North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program Governor's Crime Commission for the purchase of traffic equipment.