

MEMO

POLICE
DEPARTMENT

To: Tricia Morales, E470 Operations and Tolling Services Coordinator
From: Sergeant Jeremy Jenkins, Commerce City Police Department Traffic Services
Subject: E-470 Highway Authority Transportation Safety Foundation Grant Application
Date: March 20, 2019

1. Contact Information:

Commerce City Police Department
Chief Clint Nichols cnichols@c3gov.com
Deputy Chief Kenneth Evans kevans@c3gov.com
Commander Charles Schoepflin cschoepflin@c3gov.com
Sergeant Jeremy Jenkins jjenkins@c3gov.com 303.472.6428

- 2. Organization Overview:** The Commerce City Police Department is a full-service municipal law enforcement agency providing law enforcement and public safety services to residents, businesses, and those who travel within the corporate City limits of the City. One of the primary focuses of the Commerce City Police Department is the safety, education, and well-being of the motoring public, to include those who travel on the E470 corridor within the City.

- 3. Budget Overview:** If approved, the funds from the E470 Transportation Safety Foundation grant will be utilized to transform an existing police vehicle into one that is a hybrid police/taxi vehicle. The vehicle wrap on the rear of the vehicle will be removed and replaced with the highly-recognizable yellow colored taxi cab design.

Vehicle preparation/police wrap removal:	\$220.00
Taxi Cab wrap design/application:	<u>\$1,050.00</u>
TOTAL Cost:	\$1,270.00

- 4. Program Overview:** The Commerce City Police Department, Traffic Services Unit, needs a conduit to educate the public about the consequences of impaired driving. Moreover, the effects of a decision to operate a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or any other substance that impairs the ability of a driver to operate a motor vehicle safely.



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The creation of a vehicle intended to illicit conversation and to be used as an educational centerpiece would be beneficial in this regard. The proposed vehicle design would be one that utilizes an existing Commerce City Police fleet vehicle with existing police markings/emblems. The rear half of this existing vehicle would be repurposed and displayed as a yellow taxicab design. The purpose of the display vehicle is to impress the message that drivers have a choice when deciding to operate a motor vehicle when under the influence. That choice is a safe ride home in a taxicab or a safe ride in the backseat of a police car.

The vehicle would be utilized at community events, school demonstrations, public gatherings, and any other event found suitable to permeate the message to the Commerce City community that impaired driving, is in fact, drunk driving. The vehicle will also be showcased on the City's social media platforms and used in PSA videos the Police Department and City Communications roll out regularly. These messages are shared on social media as well as the City's website, are utilized by Youth Services Officers when making classroom and assembly presentations, and at Community Meetings throughout the City.

The Commerce City Police Department has the unique ability to interact with young, newer drivers in the community due to the partnerships that exist with educational entities in the community. The Police Department's Youth Services Unit provides law enforcement services to two school districts and several charter school entities. This allows for direct access to young adults who have obtained their driver's license, and are in a critical stage of their lives about decision-making, peer pressure, and the use of drugs and alcohol. This becomes especially pertinent during the school year for events such as Homecoming, Prom, and Graduation events when young drivers are at higher risk for exposure to alcohol, drugs, and peer pressure to engage in such activities.

In 2018, the Commerce City Police Department's Accident Reconstruction Team investigated 25 traffic collisions involving serious bodily injury (SBI) or fatalities. The overwhelming majority of these investigations involved impaired/intoxicated drivers. The ongoing mission of the Traffic Services Unit is to decrease the number of those injured on Commerce City roadways through the use of educational avenues and community engagement. This proposal intends to provide such an avenue, open discussions, and educational opportunities uniquely and creatively.

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5. References:

Sean Milner, Chief Operating Officer Adams County School District 14
5291 E. 60th Avenue, Commerce City, CO 80022
303.853.3333

Lisa Nordholt, Youth Services Supervisor, Commerce City Parks, Rec & Golf
6060 Parkway Drive, Commerce City, CO 80022
303.289.3702

Melissa Wartman, Captain, South Adams County Paramedics
6050 Syracuse Street, Commerce City, CO 80022
303.288.0835

Roster of Key Administrative Staff:

Brian McBroom, City Manager
Clint Nichols, Chief of Police
Kenneth Evans, Deputy Chief of Police – Operations
Charlie Schoepflin, Commander – Special Operations

Approved for Submission:



Clint Nichols, Chief of Police