

Grant Award Summary

Seat Belt Enforcement Grant 2022

Grant Type: Grant Continuation

Grantor: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration through the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Safety

Grant Period: October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2022

Award Amount: \$124,500 (\$99,600 - Grantor share; \$24,900 - Local soft match)

Match Required: \$24,900 (soft)

Fiscal Agent: Milwaukee Police Department

MPD Sub-Awardee: N/A

Allocation Purpose: Funds will be allocated to assist the deployment of officers who will be responsible for highly visible traffic enforcement efforts targeting seat belt violations.

Partners: Milwaukee Police Department (\$53,000 - Grantor share; \$13,250 - Local match), UW-Milwaukee Police Department (\$16,600 - Grantor share; \$4,150 - Local match), Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office (\$30,000 - Grantor share; \$7,500 - Local match).

Research & Evaluation: Through the monitoring of activity reports, citations, warnings, and citizen contacts.

Programmatic Summary & Goals:

The objectives for this operational plan are to decrease the incidence of fatalities and serious injuries resulting from motor vehicle crashes by enforcing seat belt usage in Milwaukee. Through high visibility enforcement, the Milwaukee Police Department - in partnership with the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Police Department - will enforce all occupant restraint laws to encourage seat belt use. As part of this grant, the Milwaukee Police Department will adopt a zero-tolerance policy towards impaired driving and unrestrained occupants during all motor vehicle stops. MPD will also maintain or exceed historical activity levels (rate of traffic stops during deployments) during grant-funded activity.

Data Summary:

In 2020, 43.8% of persons killed and 22.5% of persons sustaining incapacitating injuries in Wisconsin motor vehicle crashes were not wearing seat belts. Many of these people were ejected from their vehicle. Statewide seatbelt use was 89.2% in 2020; however, Wisconsin seat belt use remains about slightly lower than the national average. It is estimated that seat belt use by motor vehicle occupants in Wisconsin prevents more than 293 traffic-related fatalities and more than 8,000 serious injuries annually.