City of Joplin City Council Agenda Item

REQUESTED COUNCIL MEETING DATE: September 18, 2017
ITEM: Council Bill No. 2017-611

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Joplin Police Department
ATTACHMENTS: Council Bill No. 2017-611; copy of attachments

DEPARTMENT HEAD:	Matthew Stewart	**DATE:**
CITY MANAGER:	Sam Anselm	**DATE:**
CITY ATTORNEY:	Peter Edwards	**DATE:**
FINANCE DIRECTOR:	Leslie Haase	**DATE:**

INTRODUCTION:

The Joplin Police Department requests consideration of this Council Bill. This request, if approved, would authorize a contract between the City of Joplin and the Missouri Department of Transportation for the acceptance and expenditure of grant funds. The grant is for the funding of the Joplin Police Department's Full Time DWI Unit in the amount of $102,848. This grant pays for 50% of salaries, benefits, and overtime for two officers that are currently assigned to this unit. It will also cover equipment to include the replacement of one of our DWI vehicles. Part of this grant will also cover one officer to attend training at the annual LETSAC conference.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:
The Joplin Police Department has received this grant for several years. We first received the grant to fund the full-time DWI unit in 2010. At that time, the grant was for 100% of funding of the DWI positions. The grant was reduced to 75% the following year and to 50% the next year. The original plan for this grant was to eliminate funding for the DWI positions after three years. Our DWI unit has been very successful and because of that, the positions have continued to be funded at 50%. Each year the Joplin Police Department's DWI Unit has led the State in DWI arrests when compared to other DWI units that are funded under the same grant. The focus of these details will be to make for a safer community by detecting and arresting drivers who are intoxicated.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of this proposal on an emergency basis.