



FFY2025 Municipal Road Safety (MRS) Grant Program Application

Thank you for filling out the application.

Introduction

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's (EOPSS) Office of Grants and Research (OGR) will make available up to **\$5.5 million** in **FFY2025 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)** grant funding. OGR is the State Administering Agency for traffic safety grants provided by NHTSA.

Applicant Eligibility

Massachusetts municipal law enforcement departments are eligible to apply to address local traffic safety issues, allowing funding beyond enforcement to include equipment options and developing novel traffic safety programs. The goal is to support traditional enforcement activities and develop new strategies to reduce roadway crashes, injuries, fatalities, and associated economic losses in Massachusetts.

The FFY2025 AGF opportunity will continue to support all Municipal Road Safety (MRS) program elements – Traffic Enforcement & Equipment, Pedestrian & Bicyclist Enforcement, and Non-Enforcement Traffic Safety Activities & Items.

For more details, please review the [Availability of Grant Funds](#) on our website.

Key Dates

AGF Posted: **Thursday, May 30th, 2024**

Application Due: **Monday, July 1st, 2024 at 9:00 am**

Anticipated Award Announcements: **October 2024**

Performance Period: **November 2024 to September 15th, 2025**

Please email all questions related to this application to OGR.MRS@mass.gov.

Please register for **FFY25 Municipal Road Safety Technical Assistance Webinar** on **June 6, 2024 1:00 PM EDT** at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/421090302512809306>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Directions

Please complete all sections in this application.

The "Save" feature at the bottom of each page allows you to save your responses and provides you with a unique link to return at a later time without losing any information you have entered. Once you have completed all relevant sections in the application, click the "Submit" button.

Please note that once you submit the application, you will not be able to edit your responses.

Applicant Name

Somerville Police Department

Applicant Address

220 Washington St., Somerville, Massachusetts 02143

Authorizing Official Contact

Name

Charles Femino

Job Title

Chief of Police

Email

cfemino@police.somerville.ma.us

Phone

(617) 625-1600 x7200

Is the Agency Head Contact mailing address the same as the agency address?

Yes

Grant Point of Contact

Name

Michael McCarey

Job Title

Sergeant, Traffic Safety

Email

mmccarey@police.somerville.ma.us

Phone

(617) 625-1600 x7245

Is the Grant Point of Contact mailing address the same as the agency address?

Yes

Fiscal Point of Contact

Name

Anthony Delmonaco

Job Title

Director of Finance

Email

adelmonaco@police.somerville.ma.us

Phone

(617) 628-1600 x7260

Is the Fiscal Contact mailing address the same as the agency address?

Yes

Currently Registered in SAM

Yes

Do you have a UEI number?

Yes

Is the UEI number below correct?

Yes

UEI Number

KV62KX4QF3N8

Is your department participating in the Motor Vehicle Automated Citation and Crash System (MACCS) program?

No

Which elements of the MRS are you applying for?

- Traffic Safety Enforcement
- Traffic Safety Equipment
- Pedestrian and Bicyclist Enforcement
- Pedestrian & Bicyclist Safety Items
- Non-Enforcement Traffic Safety Activities

Program Description

Provide a clear and concise description of your department's philosophy and commitment to all aspects of road safety. Also include:

- How these grant funds will augment your existing efforts to reduce roadway crashes, injuries, fatalities, and associated economic losses.
- How MRS funds awarded to your department in FFY2024 or prior have had an impact on your community (if applicable). If you have not received MRS funds in the past, please state that you have not received MRS funds previously.

Description

Traffic enforcement, education, and engineering are elements of an overall traffic safety program to promote the safe, efficient, and orderly movement of motor vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians in Somerville. Enforcement and education programs are designed to change dangerous driving behavior and to promote voluntary compliance with the motor vehicle laws of the Commonwealth.

Somerville is one of the most densely populated Cities in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and continues to grow through new construction and development. Hence, there is a need for increased education & enforcement. Bicycles are becoming a preferred mode of transportation for many community members which has increased the number of bike lanes in the City and narrowed many roadways. The addition of the new bike lanes and shared streets creates the need for additional enforcement and education efforts for motorists around keeping bicyclists and pedestrians safe.

The goal is to interact with motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians in a positive manner so to provide education to the public while creating safer roadways for all.

The number of hours per year that Traffic Division personnel dedicate educating and/or enforcing the public has decreased over the last few years due to staffing shortages. The average patrol officer assigned to Patrol, dedicates less than 1 hour of their shift to traffic related education and/or enforcement.

Significant problem areas are identified through citation data, community input, and information conveyed by City government. The Somerville Police Department is currently understaffed and as a result the Traffic Division has been reduced. This has reduced traffic enforcement and education.

Crash Data

Crash Category	2021	2022	2023
Total Fatal Crashes	1	0	0
Total Serious Injury Crashes	11	6	11
Total Alcohol Suspected Crashes	12	15	10
Total Speed Related Crashes	8	9	7
Number of Pedestrian Crashes	2	29	20
Number of Pedestrian with Serious Injuries	4	1	5
Pedestrian Crashes with Fatalities	1	0	0
Number of Bicyclist Crashes	26	45	50
Number of Bicyclist Crashes with Serious Injuries	2	0	2
Number of Bicyclist Crashes with Fatalities	0	0	0
Total Crashes involving a driver 'manually operating or talking on a hand-held electronic device'	7	4	2
Total crashes involving a driver contributing circumstances is 'Inattention' or 'Distracted' and distraction is 'Not Reported' or 'Unknown'	24	25	15
No Safety System Used - Fatal Injury & Serious Injury	3	0	1
Blank/Unknown - Fatal Injury & Serious Injury	1	1	2

Internal Data

Categories	2021	2022	2023
OUI Alcohol and Drug Arrests	19	12	14
Seat belt citations	14	21	16
Speeding citations	2215	206	901
Distracted driving citations	784	510	690
Failure to yield to pedestrian in crosswalk citations	210	23	356

**Distracted driving shall include the following: Improper use of Phone/Electronic Device, Texting, and Impeded Operation*

Measurable Target Objectives

Measurable Target Objectives

Objective Number	Description
Objective 1	Distribute 1750 pieces of educational materials regarding the sharing of the road by motor vehicles and bikes and distracted driving .
Objective 2	Distribute 460 pieces of bike/pedestrian safety equipment. Including 400 illuminated/reflective bands for vulnerable road users and 60 helmets for youth and adult bicyclists. Equipment will help illuminate both bicyclist and pedestrians and promote safe bicycling. Those with financial struggles and underserved communities will be given distribution preference.
Objective 3	Install 1 radar speed sign on College Ave near the Tufts Campus, which will show drivers their speed and notifies them to slow down thus reducing the number of speeders in this area with high pedestrian traffic.

Road Safety Trends

Identify three problematic road safety trends that exist in your community (either crash or citation-related) pertaining to demographics, location, day of the week, and/or time of day.

- Trends must relate to the elements being requested.
- *Trend Examples:*
 - Our data shows distracted driving citations are issued on Main St twice as often compared to the rest of the town and issued one and a half times more frequently after 4PM.
 - Our data shows 3 pedestrians over the age of 60 were struck by vehicles in 2022.
 - Our CPS Technician saw a 60% misuse rate on car seats that the department checked last year.

Road Safety Trends

Trend Number	Description
Trend 1	Crash statistics show that bicycle crashes have increased since 2022 and pedestrian involved crashes have decreased, with hot spots being Broadway, Beacon St., and Union Square. We hope to continue the downward trend with pedestrian crashes and curtail the increase in bicycle crashes.
Trend 2	Citation statistics shows speeding continues to be a problem on Washington St. and College Ave. at all hours of the day. With the addition of radar speed signs and selective enforcement the goal is to reduce speeding violations in these areas.
Trend 3	Bicycle involved crashes along commuter routes have increased as access to dedicated bicycle lanes have improved. With the assistance of the Bicycle Committee, the Department will engage the community by handing out educational materials that illustrate the rules of the road when it comes to the proper sharing of the roadway by motorist, pedestrians & bikes.

Non-Enforcement Traffic Safety Activities

For Non-Enforcement traffic safety activities, provide the following details for each budgeted activity:

- Describe the activity, where it will take place, who will be involved, and what will their role(s) be.
- Describe why you are proposing to conduct this activity and what you hope to accomplish.
- Please be as specific as possible when describing activities involving presentations regarding the topics to be covered (i.e. bike safety presentation for the elementary school or pedestrian safety presentation at the senior center).

Note: Please refer to Page 13 of the AGF for some examples of eligible Non-Enforcement traffic safety activities.

Non-Enforcement Traffic Safety Activities

Activity Number	Activities
Activity 1	Grant funds for non-enforcement traffic safety activities will be used to create traffic related educational materials that will be handed out by officers during encounters and at various City sponsored events.
Activity 2	The Department will also sponsor separate day events by placing pop-up tents along roadways where bicycle and pedestrian crashes occur (i.e. Community Path crossings, Washington Street, Broadway, Beacon Street, Temple Street) in order to hand out traffic related education and safety materials.
Activity 3	The Department will set up Informational boots at city run events SomerStreets events to hand out traffic related education and safety materials. We hope to engage with the community in a positive, non-enforcement role to provide traffic and safety education materials.
Activity 4	Deploy officers on foot on the Community path to engage public, to distribute lighted bands and educational materials in late May and June

Traffic Equipment

For requesting traffic equipment, provide the quantity of the type of equipment being requested. You must also provide the quantity and approximate age of your current inventory.

Explain how the equipment requested will augment the planned enforcement. Give justification for the need and how/where the equipment will be used.

- Example A: The department has no data recorders and will post them on streets A, B, and C in order to...
- Example B: The department would benefit from new Handheld Radar units to enforce speed and reduce crashed caused by speed in areas X, Y, and Z.

If you are not requesting a specific type of equipment, please put "N/A" in the "Current Inventory" section, a "0" in the "Requested" section and "N/A" in the "Justification" section.

Note: OGR reserved the right to adjust an equipment award if justification is inadequate or not provided. If unallowable items are listed, the funding will be denied, and the department will not have the opportunity to update with allowable items.

Handheld Radar:

Current Inventory	Requested
9, 6/2012	0

Justification

our current inventory is sufficient for our needs,

Handheld LiDAR:

Current Inventory	Requested
17, 2016-2019	2

Justification

Our oldest 5 units were retired in 2024. bringing us below our goal of maintaining 20 units. The more units we can deploy, the more we can evenly spread our enforcement throughout the city.

Pole-Mounted Radar Speed Sign:

Current Inventory	Requested
4 (1-3yrs old)	1

Justification

We are requesting to purchase 1 Titan TC-600 speed radar signs from Marlin Controls of Uxbridge Mass. The Somerville Police Department has 4 speed radar signs in it's inventory. We would like to expand this to 5 to cover other identified high impact areas such as College Avenue. Somerville DPW and The Traffic and Parking Division will be installing the sign using poles. Labor and any other needed materials will be supplied by them.

Traffic Data Recorder:

Current Inventory	Requested
1, 3 years old	0

Justification

The unit we have currently meets our needs.

Preliminary Breath Test (PBT) Instruments:

Current Inventory	Requested
1	4

Justification

We had 4 units retired in 2023 that were no longer serviceable. This left us with only 1 working unit. we would like to be able to deploy more units in the field to assist with OUI detection.

Pedestrian & Bicyclist Safety Items

For Pedestrian & Bicyclist Safety Items (see AGF for the item listing), provide:

- Justification for why the items are needed.
- Quantity of each item proposed for purchase.
- A distribution plan including targeted population, method of distribution, and an educational component.

Pedestrian & Bike Items Justification

The City of Somerville has seen an increase in pedestrian and bike traffic within its limits which is not unlike other urban areas in the metropolitan Boston area. With the increase in vulnerable road users there comes a need for the sharing of the roads and the education of all those who use the area.

The items that are chosen for purchase are rechargeable lighted reflective bands and bicycle helmets. The bands will help illuminate both pedestrians and bicyclist which will make them more visible to each other and motor vehicle traffic. The helmets will be distributed to those who may not be able to afford a helmet or those who are wanting to upgrade their safety and start wearing a helmet.

As part of the distribution of these items we will work with the Bicycle Commission to identify the best way to distribute the helmets. This includes attending festivals and other public events within the city. Having Officers engage with attendees on bike and foot to discuss safety of vulnerable road users, and how motor vehicle actions can affect safety, pointing out to motorists how the need to share the roadway can impact safety.

In addition to handing out safety items the Somerville Police will also be handing out the "sharing the road guide" that was previously supplied by EOPPS and MASS DOT.

Timeline

Provide a timeline of the Element(s) activities/deliverables by writing in the activity corresponding to each month your department will be participating.

- For Traffic and Ped & Bike enforcement, indicate the type of enforcement and total hours planned in the corresponding month.
- For equipment or safety items, enter the item you plan to purchase in the appropriate month. Traffic Equipment and Safety Items must be received by April 30, 2025.
- For Non-Enforcement Activities, enter the name of the activity in the appropriate month.

Element(s) Timeline

Month	Enforcement Activity	Purchase Equipment / Safety Items	Planned Non-Enforcement Activity
November		Have Pamphlets printed, Order LiDar, speed sign & pbt's	
December	Winter Impaired Driving, 30H		
January		Receive and implement equipment	
February			
March	Pedestrian / Bike Safety Campaign 40H		

Month	Enforcement Activity	Purchase Equipment / Safety Items	Planned Non-Enforcement Activity
April	Distracted Driving, 70H		
May	Click it or Ticket 75H & Ped/Bike Campaign 45H		engage public on foot along community path, to distribute lighted bands and educational materials in late May
June	Speed Campaign 85H		engage public on foot along community path, to distribute lighted bands and educational materials in late May, Set up Booth at Memorial day Parade along bike path to distribute materials and Safety Equ
July	Speed Campaign 65H		Set up Booth at Mystic learning center to distribute materials and Safety Equ
Aug-Sep 15th	Summer Impaired Driving 74H & Ped Safety Campaign 60H		Set up Booth at Somer-Streets in Aug and Sept to distribute materials and Safety Equipment

Public Participation & Community Engagement

The Office of Grants and Research is interested in participating in upcoming community events (Open House, Touch-A-Truck, Community Presentations, etc.) in an effort to increase our outreach and further educate the public about various Highway Safety Division programming and how it can benefit them.

If your department is interested in having OGR participate in an event, we ask that you please provide any community engagement activities (Type of Event, Date, etc.) that your department and/or city or town are actively engaged in or are planning to conduct during the upcoming FFY2025 grant cycle in the textbox below.

Budget

Dollar amount of funding requested in your application

\$60,000.00

Budget Narrative Summary: The budget narrative shall provide a thorough justification on the basis of each proposed cost category in the budget. Please describe each cost category, the amount requested for the category, and the purpose of the cost/purchase. All costs must be justified in this section.

Traffic enforcement overtime: The \$30,324.00 designated for overtime enforcement will be divided amongst the six campaigns beginning in December. This will allow for over 360 hours of enforcement. During these campaigns the officers will be assigned to areas that have been selected due to the frequency of infractions or by statistical crash data. Drivers engaged in certain types of behavior will receive educational materials along with the interaction with officers. This includes a distracted driving pamphlets and share the road pamphlets for example.

Traffic Safety Equipment: The Purchase of 2 hand-held Lidar Prolaser 4 systems from Kustom Signals for \$2,357.95 each for a total of \$4715.90, to upgrade our existing equipment and replace units that have exceeded their serviceable life. One radar speed feedback sign will be purchased and installed by the city. The cost of the unit (Titan TC-600S - SOLAR POWERED DRIVER FEEDBACK SIGN) supplied by Marlin Controls is \$4,100.00 under a state pricing contract and will be installed by DPW in an area identified with a high number of speed violations. Four Intoximeters, Alco-Sensor FST, Portable Breathalyzer units model 40-2120-00 from Intoximeters for \$1,960.00 (\$490.00 ea.) under a state pricing contract will be purchased. These will be purchased to replace unserviceable units that have exceeded their life. This will allow officers to have this tool at their disposal should the need arise during traffic stops.

Pedestrian & Bike Safety Enforcement: The sum of \$11,020.90 will be designated for pedestrian & bike safety enforcement for three campaigns beginning in March. This will provide over 130 Hours of enforcement. The funds will be divided equally which will provide for \$3,673.33 to designated for each campaign. The focus of these campaigns, in order of preference will be, 1. Motorized Vehicles violating laws designed for the safety of bicyclists (blocking bike lanes, failure to yield to oncoming bicyclist when turning, unsafe passing, j-hooking, etc...). 2. Motorized Vehicle enforcement at Mid-block crosswalks, as identified by Mobility & the Pedestrian & Transit Advisory Committee (PTAC) 3. Motorized Vehicle enforcement at Crosswalks utilizing decoy officers, where pedestrian and vulnerable road users are frequently ignored, such as the Squares, Broadway, area around Tufts and approaches to Somerville schools. 4. Bicycle enforcement will focus on more egregious bicycle violations such as failure to stop for pedestrians in a crosswalk, while de-prioritizing Idaho stops that are performed safely.

Non-enforcement safety activities and items: A total of \$3,800.00 will be designated for officers to attend events where they will speak on the need for sharing of the road by all users and the need for awareness to ensure the safety of all. The officers will also be handing out safety items such as lights and reflective safety gear to both pedestrians and bicyclist. The Somerville Police Department will communicate with the Somerville Bike Committee and request direction and assistance in reaching out to the cycling community as well.

Pedestrian and Bike Safety Items: \$3,320.10 has been requested to purchase 400 lighted, reflective safety bands, 60 adjustable bicycle helmets, and 1750 assorted educational safety pamphlets. Officers attending 5+ social events throughout the city and pop up tents along the community path will be able to provide the high visibility bands and safety pamphlets to walkers, runners and bicyclists to promote safety and visibility. Bicycle helmets will be distributed at these events and events in coordination with the Somerville Homeless Coalition and at the Mystic learning center.

Educational Materials: \$633.70 is requested for the printing of 1750 pieces of assorted educational safety pamphlets including distracted driving, sharing the road, and how to stay safe on two wheels that has been designed by Somerville bicycle coalition. This information will be handed out to those attending community events and during appropriate traffic stops.

Does the applicant have a federally approved indirect cost rate?

No

Will the applicant be requesting the de minimis rate?

No

Document Upload

Attachment B: Budget Excel Worksheet Form (Summary and Details sheets)

 FFY25 MRS Attachment B_06042024.xlsm	↓
0.2 MB	

Organization's Overtime Policy

 Policy 428 - Patrol Officer Overtime.pdf	↓
0.2 MB	

Traffic Safety Equipment Quotes

 Somerville_MA ProLaser 4 quote-updated_old.pdf	↓
0.2 MB	


 Intoximeters Order Form 2020.pdf	↓
0.4 MB	

 Shopping Cart - Staples@.pdf	↓
0.9 MB	

 Radarsign_Somerville_62724.pdf	↓
0.4 MB	

Additional Materials


 06122404 Bike Helmet - USD.pdf	↓
93.1 KB	

 06142403 LED Armband - USD.pdf	↓
94.2 KB	

 Pedestrian and Bicyclist Crashe Map - 2023.png	↓
1.3 MB	

 Policy 417 - Police Vehicles.pdf	↓
0.3 MB	

 FFY25 MRS Application Budget Summary - Attachment B.pdf	↓
0.1 MB	

 Contractor Authorized Signatory Listing Form - Signed.pdf	↓
0.5 MB	

 Subrecipient Risk Assessment Form - Signed.pdf	↓
0.8 MB	

Authorizing Official Signature

As the Authorizing Official of **Somerville Police Department**, the Somerville Police Department hereby acknowledges the terms and conditions as identified in the FFY2025 Municipal Road Safety (MRS) Availability of Grant Funding. The Department understands and agrees that a grant received as a result of this application process is subject to the regulations governing highway safety projects and grant administrative requirements and agrees to comply with all applicable Local, State, and Federal rules and regulations.

I hereby acknowledge that if purchasing equipment and/or safety items, the Department will comply with all grant contract requirements and related state and federal guidelines as they pertain to the purchasing of allowable equipment and/or safety items. The Department understands and agrees that any items approved for purchasing will be used specifically for the purposes as set forth in conjunction with the FFY2025 MRS grant program.

I hereby acknowledge that funding is contingent upon the availability of federal NHTSA funds, and certify if awarded, that these federal funds will not supplant any other funds currently made available to the Department.

By signing below, I hereby acknowledge having read and understand all FFY2025 MRS grant administration requirements and agree to comply with the best of the Department's ability.

Name of Applicant

Somerville Police Department

Authorizing Official Name

Charles Femino


Job Title

Chief Of Police

Signature

Date

6/28/2024

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles Fennel". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a thin horizontal line.

The confirmation email will go to the grant contact at this email:

mmccarey@police.somerville.ma.us

IF THIS IS INCORRECT PLEASE RETURN TO THE TOP OF THE PAGE AND UPDATE THE ADDRESS.