



STATE OF NEVADA
COMMISSION ON PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING

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STEVE SISOLAK
Governor

MICHAEL D. SHERLOCK
Executive Director

To: State of Nevada Public Works Board

From: Director Mike Sherlock, Nevada POST

Date: August 26, 2020

Subject: Northern Nevada Emergency Vehicle Operations Course-Project #7487

Background:

The Nevada Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) is the state regulatory agency overseeing all training and certification standards for all peace officers throughout Nevada. Our headquarters, located in Carson City, is where we also conduct our Basic Law Enforcement Academy. Over 40 different state, city and county agencies utilize the POST Basic Academy to provide training to their entry level peace officers. The agency budget is funded entirely through court assessments and receives no general fund monies.

Beginning in 2005, POST requested funding for the design and construction of an Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC) facility. In 2007, the funds were approved for both design and construction however state economic issues resulted in the funds being diverted and the project cancelled. The need for this project still exists and the recent focus on Law Enforcement training and liability only serves to emphasize this need.

Current Request for Funding:

Due to the lapse of time between the original request approval and today, updated design plans are needed. As such, POST is requesting funding in the amount of \$601,096.00 in hopes of pursuing future funding utilizing these updated design plans. The attached Project Cost Estimate provides a detail description of the entire project, the Project Justification and a more specific breakdown of design costs.

Attachments 1 & 2 contain statistical information regarding Law Enforcement related traffic accidents, fatalities and liability costs. Operating a motor vehicle at high speed and during times of high stress requires specific skills and officers must be adequately trained to perform these skills “on demand”. This information is included to demonstrate that an investment in training will reduce liability and create a safer working environment for Nevada Peace Officers and the public they serve.

Please note the source of the information from FETO Law Group. This firm, like many others in Nevada and across the US, specialize in litigation against public safety entities. In every lawsuit filed against law enforcement where the actions of a peace officer are questioned, training is always a significant factor. In truth, statistics clearly show that officers who receive more training are significantly less likely to be involved civil litigation.

Attachment 3 is an area map of the 26-acre site of the proposed facility. The area lies directly adjacent to the POST Academy facility and less than ¼ mile from the Northern Nevada DPS Academy.

Attachment 4 is a photograph of Livermore Park in Carson City. This is a public sports complex park with a large paved parking lot, owned and managed by Carson City Division of Parks. This location is where the POST Basic Academy is currently conducting EVOC training. Please note that it is merely a parking lot and contains islands, curbs, light poles and other standard parking lot features. Because of these features, any high- speed maneuvering is impossible and because it is a public park, availability and hours of use are limited. POST pays a fee of \$600 per Academy to rent this facility.

Attachment 5 is a conceptualized drawing of an EVOC Facility. Not necessarily the one being discussed here, but the image is designed to provide a graphic representation of what a typical EVOC facility should look like. As you can see, there is a dramatic difference between what the Nevada POST EVOC facility should look like and what we are currently using to train Nevada Peace Officers.

Attachment 6 is a map of the Reno Public Safety Training Center in Reno. The EVOC track, located in the upper portion of the photo, is the large flat area surrounded by the track. During previous presentations regarding this project request, it has repeatedly been suggested that POST simply utilize this facility. While this option sounds good in theory and it is a state-of-the-art facility, it is impractical for POST to utilize this location for our Basic Academy training. The facility is located over an hour’s drive from our Academy, regional partner agencies have scheduling preference (6 months in advance) and there is a substantial fee for use.

Attachments 7-9 contain information, photos and a price list from the San Bernardino Sheriff’s Dept. EVOC facility, located in San Bernardino, CA. This facility is utilized by other public agencies as well as non-governmental organizations for emergency vehicle and other driver training. In FY 2018, this EVOC center generated in excess of \$1.5 million in revenues. Naturally, some of this money was reinvested into the facility for ongoing maintenance and upkeep, however a substantial portion was designated as unencumbered revenue for the county general fund.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #1

- Police pursuits account for 300 fatalities in the United States each year.
- People not involved in police pursuits accounted for 30% of these fatalities.
- Per million vehicles driven, police officers nearly double the rate of motor vehicle crashes than the general public.
- 50% of all law enforcement officer deaths resulted from vehicle accidents between 1998 and 2008.
 - In 2011, LAPD paid \$24,000,000 for settlements and verdicts related to accidents that involved their police vehicles.
 - In 2007, Chicago paid \$7,000,000 for settlements and verdicts related to accidents involving their patrol vehicles
 - It is estimated that emergency vehicle accidents in the United States costs \$35 billion annually.
 - It is estimated that the global cost of emergency vehicle accidents is \$250 billion annually.

Source: FETO Law Group

Keep officers *safe* on the road.

Motor vehicle-related incidents are a leading cause of on-the-job deaths for law enforcement officers in the U.S.



There were more than
750,000
law enforcement
officers in 2012.¹



Officers spend **many hours**
behind the wheel and face
increased risk when responding
to emergency calls.



564 officers died
due to vehicle crashes,
31% of all line-of-duty
deaths from 2005-2016.²



Of the **152** fatal
crashes from 2012-2016,
almost half were
single-vehicle events.²

Officers can prevent crashes and injuries when they:

Buckle Up



Slow Down



Focus



Remain Calm



Visit www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/leo
to access resources to promote
safety behind the wheel.



Visit NLEOMF.org to learn more
about making law enforcement
safer for those who serve.



Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention
National Institute for Occupational
Safety and Health



National Law Enforcement Officers
MEMORIAL FUND
RESPECT. HONOR. REMEMBER.

¹Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Program, www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/rsleed.pdf

²Source: National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund

Attachment #3

map prepared by
Nevada Division of State Lands
3/28/2006



Proposed Emergency Vehicle
Operations Course Facility

Attachment #4



Attachment #5



Attachment #6



Regional Public Safety Training Center

5190 Spectrum Boulevard, Reno, NV 89512

(775) 789-5500, (775) 789-5501 fax

RPSTC

Facilities and resources are available for use, on a space available basis to public safety agencies, divisions of Federal, State and local government. To view available resources, please click [here](#).

Attachment # 7

The San Bernardino County Sheriff's EVOC (Emergency Vehicle Operations Center) is one of the premier driver training facilities in the country. The primary goal of EVOC is to provide professional law enforcement training to entry level and in-service officers. In operation since 1991, EVOC also provides driver training to various municipalities and the general public. For information on any of our classes please call (909)473-3888. To register for a class email kgray@sbcasd.org or please call (909)473-3880

Click the course title below to view the course information flyer:

<u>EVOC Update (8 Hours)</u>	<u>\$185/student</u>
<u>Driver Awareness (8 Hours)</u>	<u>\$150/student</u>
<u>Driver Awareness Instructor (24 Hours)</u>	<u>\$390/student</u>
<u>Driver Training Update (24 Hours)</u>	<u>\$575/student</u>
<u>Driver Training Instructor (40 Hours)</u>	<u>\$650/student</u>
<u>ATV Rider - Law Enforcement Course (16 Hours)</u>	<u>\$350/student</u>
<u>POST Mandatory Perishable Skills Program LEDS and FOS (8 Hours)</u>	<u>\$185/student</u>
<u>POST Mandatory Perishable Skills Program LEDS (4 Hours)</u>	<u>\$100/student</u>
<u>Motorcycle Dual Sport On/Off Road Course (40 Hours)</u>	<u>\$800/student</u>
<u>4X4 Off Road Vehicle Course (8 Hours)</u>	<u>\$300/student</u>
<u>Advanced Defensive Driving (8 Hours)</u>	<u>\$250/student</u>
<u>Emergency Services Driving Course (8 Hours)</u>	<u>\$260/student</u>
<u>Motorcycle Pre-Training</u>	<u>\$250/student</u>
<u>Motorcycle Basic Academy</u>	<u>\$1330/student</u>
<u>Motorcycle Basic Instructor</u>	<u>\$1550/student</u>
<u>Motorcycle Update</u>	<u>\$130/student</u>
<u>Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT) Course</u>	<u>\$240/student</u>
<u>Teen Survival Driving (8 Hours)</u>	<u>\$250/student</u>

Attachment #8



Attachment #9



Closing Summary:

We recognize that in considering this funding request, the two main issues will be need and priority. Please consider that law enforcement training and actions have never been more at the forefront of public scrutiny than it is today. Need and priority are directly related to risk management and risk managers utilize a frequency-risk scale to make these determinations. Agencies spend a tremendous amount of money in training officers in use of force yet statistically speaking, force is generally used in less than 1% of arrests. In contrast, the average law enforcement officer spends a tremendous amount of time behind the wheel of a patrol car. This makes Emergency Vehicle Operations a high risk-high frequency activity and thus a clearly defined need and a top priority.

We also ask that you consider two other factors. The first being that we are asking for only a portion of the project funding. This project was approved and shovel ready at one time, but economic downturn caused the funding to be lost. We'd like to get started back into the process. Secondly, this facility will serve a need across the broad spectrum of public safety vehicle operations training. As in the case of the San Bernardino facility, Police and Sheriff's Depts, Fire Depts, Ambulance operators, and civilians can (and will) utilize the facility at and be willing to pay a fee. This facility will be self-sustaining and potentially a source of revenue once completed.

We thank you for your time and consideration of our request.