NEWS RELEASE

The City of **SAN DIEGO** Police Department

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San Diego Police Department Awarded Grant for Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Program from the Office of Traffic Safety

San Diego – The San Diego Police Department announced today that it has received a \$240,000 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) to support its Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Program. This grant will allow us to promote safe practices for pedestrians and bicyclists and provide education about the importance of sharing the road.

"We are thrilled to announce that our community has been awarded a grant from the Office of Traffic Safety, dedicated to advancing bicycle and pedestrian education. This grant is a powerful commitment to equipping our community with the knowledge and tools needed to navigate our streets safely," Sergeant Gregory Minter said. "With this support, we are paving the way for a future where education is key to fostering a culture of safety, ensuring that every step and pedal is a secure journey toward a more informed and protected community."

"Everyone deserves a safe environment to travel, regardless of how people get to places," OTS Director Barbara Rooney said. "The safety of people walking and biking on our roads is a high priority. Education plays a pivotal role in creating a strong road safety culture that prioritizes traffic safety, especially for our most vulnerable road users."

Grant funds will support a variety of activities focused on bicycle and pedestrian safety:

- Community bicycle and walk "audits" of streets with a high rate of pedestrian and/or bicyclist fatalities and serious injury crashes.
- Participate in "Open Streets" events encouraging biking and walking.
- · Bicycle training courses that educate youth on safe riding behaviors.
- · Helmet fitting inspections and distribution of helmets to those in need.
- · Community and school education presentations.
- · Community bike rides that encourage and teach riders safe riding skills.
- Walking field trips with older residents and pedestrian safety for people who are experiencing homelessness.

The grant program will run through September 2024. Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.