

Project Name: Oskaloosa, Iowa Safe City Project

Proposed Recipient: City of Oskaloosa

Address of Recipient: 220 S. Market St, Oskaloosa, IA 52577

Amount of Request: \$999,745

Explanation of Request: The SAFECity initiative is a public safety project designed to bring advanced technology to Oskaloosa to help keep the community safer, more connected, and better prepared. Led by the Oskaloosa Police Department, this project will use smart tools to help officers respond faster, investigate more effectively, and prevent crime before it happens. Here's what SAFECity will include: License Plate Recognition Cameras: Mounted at key locations throughout the city, these cameras will help police identify vehicles connected to crimes or missing persons in real time. New In-Car and Body Cameras: Officers will be equipped with upgraded cameras that work together with the license plate system, improving transparency and officer safety. Improved Interview and OWI Rooms: Police facilities will be updated with better recording equipment for interviews and testing rooms to support safer roads and stronger cases in court. Real-Time Crime Monitoring Tools: A new software system will help officers and dispatchers see what's happening across the city and respond more effectively to emergencies. School and Public Safety Panic Buttons: Panic buttons and upgraded communication systems will be installed in schools and public spaces to speed up law enforcement response during crises. This makes Oskaloosa one of the first in Iowa to support "Alyssa's Law," a national school safety effort. Search and Rescue Drone: A drone with thermal imaging will assist in missing person cases, tactical responses, and school safety during emergencies. Community Policing Vehicle: A quiet, electric vehicle will be used during festivals, parades, and along trails to help officers stay engaged and visible in the community. Why It Matters: The SAFECity project brings together tools that help keep people safe, support faster emergency response, and make investigations more efficient. It's a smart use of federal funding—with no cost to local taxpayers—and a big step forward in building a safer, stronger Oskaloosa.

Federal Nexus: The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 1701(b)(8) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10381(b)(8)).