

**RES: 2018-68**

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, Distracted driving is a dangerous epidemic on America’s roadways. In 2015 alone, 3,477 people were killed in distracted driving crashes. An estimated 391000 people were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving a distracted driver. Driver inattention was listed as a contributing circumstance in 52 percent o the state’s crashes in 2015 and was a contributing factor in crashes at a rate nine times higher than that of the next highest contributing factor (speed); and

**WHEREAS**, April is National Distracted Driver Month, which is a time to remind New Jersey motorists of the state’s distracted driving laws, which include a ban on hand-held cell phone use and text messaging by all drivers and a ban on all cell phone use (hand held or hands free) by novice drivers; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety is providing grants to municipalities for police officers, on an overtime basis, to conduct special enforcement patrols targeting distracted drivers from April 1 – 21, 2018. The patrols will consist of roving patrols and fixed checkpoints. The grant will pay for 120 hours of overtime enforcement during the crackdown period. These participating Police Department’s will be reimbursed \$55.00 per hour that will be paid to Officers participating in this program.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Borough of Spotswood declares it’s support for “National Distracted Driver Month” both locally and nationally from April 1, thru April 21, 2018, and pledges to increase awareness of Distracted Drivers in the Borough.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Borough Council of the Borough of Spotswood, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, authorize appropriate officials to sign the National Distracted Driver Grant April 1 thru 21, 2018 from State of New Jersey, Division of Highway Traffic Safety.

DATED: April 9, 2018

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MARGARET DROZD  
Council President

ATTEST:

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PATRICIA DESTEFANO, RMC  
Municipal Clerk