



**To: Bay Area UASI Approval Authority**  
**From: Mikyung Kim-Molina, Regional Program Manager**  
**Date: March 14, 2024**  
**Re: Item 06: FY24 National Priority Projects**

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**Staff Recommendation:**

Approve project scope and funding amounts for the FY24 National Priority areas (NPAs), on condition that the UASI FY24 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) will be similar to the FY 23 NOFO. Should DHS/FEMA change the NPAs and/or min. spend requirements, the recommendation would be revised to satisfy the new directives of the FY24 NOFO.

**Action or Discussion Item:**

Action.

**Background**

Pursuant to the FY 2023 NOFO, National Priority Projects (NPPs) are required to be funded at 30% of the UASI grant award (\$8,922,603). Five of the six eligible National Priority Areas (NPAs) are required to be funded at 3% minimum (\$892,260) each for a total of 15% (\$4,461,300), providing flexibility in planning for the remaining 15% (\$4,461,303). Should Fiscal Year 2024 National Priority Areas and minimum spend requirements be similar to the FY 2023 NOFO, the following represents the FY 2024 NPPs and related required funding percentages:.

| <b>National Priority Area</b>      | <b>Required %</b> | <b>National Priority Area</b>         | <b>Required %</b> |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Intelligence & Information Sharing | 3%                | Community Preparedness and Resilience | 3%                |
| Soft Targets/Crowded Places        | 3%                | Domestic Violent Extremism            | 3%                |
| Elections Security                 | 3%                | Cybersecurity                         | 0                 |

**Discussion**

In order to satisfy FEMA’s National Priority Project (NPP) requirements, the Management Team leverages lessons learned from the approved FY23 National Priority Projects, as well as UASI regional workgroup members feedback and FEMA Technical Assistance guidance to establish a list of National Priority Projects depicted in Table 1 below. The projects align to the region’s THIRA/SPR and meet the criteria for effectiveness, which will be competitively reviewed by DHS/FEMA. Funding for each of the five required 031424 Approval Authority March Agenda Item 06 FY24 National Priority Projects

National Priority Areas meets the 3% requirement (\$892,260) for a total 15% (\$4,461,300). The remaining 15% (\$4,461,303) is allocated to other NPAs per identified gaps and input from subject matter experts.

Listed in Table 1 and Table 2 below are six FY24 national priorities, the proposed associated projects, and recommended funding amounts for a total of \$ 8,922,603 (30% of the UASI grant award).

**Table 1: FY24 National Priority Projects**

| <b>Enhancing Information &amp; Intelligence Sharing<br/>(3% required)</b>  | <b>Project Description</b>  |
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| <p style="text-align: center;">Fusion Center<br/>Organization<br/><i>(Northern California Regional<br/>Intelligence Center)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$3,105,942</p> | <p>To enhance regional intelligence and information sharing, the NCRIC serves as the focal point within the federal Northern District of California's local government for the receipt, analysis, gathering, and sharing of threat-related information. This is accomplished through the funding of personnel and training. The NCRIC will continue funding a staff of 20 and use approximately 99% of the funding for this project in the Organization solution area. These positions include: nine (9) analysts, five (5) lead analysts, one (1) IT analyst, one (1) lead IT analyst, one (1) IT Supervisor-Asst Dep. Director, and one (1) planner. These positions will work to combat, prevent, and prepare for disasters caused by international and domestic terrorism and other threats. The project will be conducted during the grant performance period.</p> |
| <b>Enhancing the Protection of Soft Targets/Crowded Places<br/>(3% required)</b>   | <b>Project Description</b>  |
| <p style="text-align: center;">UASI Training</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$250,000</p>  | <p>Since soft targets and crowded places are at risk for being targeted in terrorist event, quick and effective response capabilities are critical for savings lives. Incident Management Teams (IMT) have become an essential resource because of their ability to rapidly deploy during the first 12 hours of an incident. This project will conduct 10 training courses, such as HazMat Incident Commander, ICS 220, 320, 420, and 620, as well as IMT Practical Application and O-305 courses to add essential capabilities to the Bay Area's Type I HazMat IMTs. The project will be conducted during the grant performance period.</p>  |
| <p style="text-align: center;">UASI Exercises</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$642,260</p>   | <p>The Bay Area is hosting numerous high-profile events in 2026 including the Super Bowl and World Cup that involve crowded activities throughout the region. As reflected in the APEC after-action report, this project will close gaps and continue building capabilities for protecting these soft targets, the Bay Area UASI will conduct a series of first responder exercises in 2025 such as special events coordination, urban search and rescue, marine specialties, marine firefighting, explosive ordnance disposal, and</p>   |

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|  | mutual aid for canine detection of high yield explosives (specifically in airports). Exercises will be hands-on full-scale opportunities as well as discussion based tabletop exercises. The project will be completed within the grant performance period.  |
| <b>Enhancing Elections Security<br/>(3% required)</b>          | <b>Project Description</b>   |
| Mobile Barrier Trailer Kits<br><br>\$892,260                   | Enhancing election security is important to ensure free and fair elections, and for terrorism response, operational coordination and physical security of voters and election sites. The BAUASI will invest in 10 Mobile Barrier Trailer Kits, which will be used to deliver the mobile barriers and accessories that are capable of providing enhanced physical security to election-related sites within the region. Each trailer kit contains 8 protective barricades. The equipment helps law enforcement agencies deploy system designed to channel or halt pedestrian and/or vehicle borne traffic in order to protect a physical asset or facility. The project will be conducted during the grant performance period. This project can be claimed as LETPA as it addresses the core capability of “Operational Coordination” within the National Prevention Framework. |
| <b>Community Preparedness and Resilience<br/>(3% required)</b> | <b>Project Description</b>   |
| Community Preparedness Planning<br><br>\$573,806               | For the 12-county region to be truly resilient, it is critical to invest in planning for the whole community. Building upon previous BAUASI's Community Resilience NPP efforts, this project will hire a consultant to offer technical assistance to community organizations providing service in vulnerable communities to support disaster readiness planning. Consultants will provide services such as: conducting organizational readiness assessments, developing Emergency Response Plans and Business Continuity of Operations Plans, updating existing plans, or assist organizations to apply for preparedness/resilience grants. The project will be completed during the grant performance period.   |
| Community Preparedness Equipment<br><br>\$511,202              | For the 12-county region to be truly resilient, it is critical to invest in equipment for the whole community. Building on the BAUASI's FY22 Community Resilience NPP, this project will continue to purchase disaster readiness equipment for schools, community-based organizations, and other community groups, focusing on underserved populations. A menu of options will be provided to jurisdictions to customize selections allowing the community to address their specific needs. This project may fund up to, but is not limited to CERT canopies, CERT flags, CERT backpacks, CERT Training consumables, CERT shelter supply response trailers, 1st Aid/STB  |

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|   | kits, disaster readiness supplies for schools/CBO's, individual emergency kits for the community based on community needs, and signage.   |
| Community Preparedness Training<br>\$378,000                        | Building on the Bay Area UASI's FY23 Community Preparedness and Resilience investments, this project will expand relevant training offerings throughout Bay Area jurisdictions, municipalities, and underserved populations to enhance disaster readiness throughout the region. The Justice40 Initiative CJEST tool will identify vulnerable populations and aid coordination of trainings in desired areas. This project will expand the offer of trainings in languages in addition to English and support translation of program materials as needed. Training options include courses geared toward both youth and adults. Courses may include but are not limited to CERT training, Stop the Bleed, STEP, Psychological 1st Aid, ICS and business continuity planning for CBOs and small businesses, animal evacuations, and disaster recovery. A projected 30 trainings will be provided in person in various locations across the region and/or virtually to maximize accessibility. Trainings will build skills in personal and organizational preparedness increasing disaster readiness of local organizations and communities. The project will be conducted during the grant performance period. |
| Community Preparedness Exercise<br>\$298,800                        | Building on the Bay Area UASI's FY'23 Community Resilience NPP, this project will continue offering an opportunity for Bay Area jurisdictions to exercise whole community preparedness with a focus on underserved populations. A Community Seminar Series focusing on preparedness for community organizations will be offered in English and Spanish throughout the region. Additionally, jurisdictions and partner agencies will be offered the opportunity to customize an exercise allowing the community to address their specific needs (i.e., tabletop exercise, hands-on drills, full-scale exercise, etc.). The goal is to have CBOs, faith-based organizations, small businesses, and other community organizations who provide services in vulnerable communities participate in conjunction with local government. The project will be completed during the grant performance period.  |
| <b>Combating Domestic Violent Extremism (3% required)</b>           | <b>Project Description</b>  |
| Building Multiple Referral Pathways for DVE Prevention<br>\$700,000 | The Bay Area UASI will hire a consultant to create online and offline referral pathways for at-risk individuals in need of off-ramps from extremist ideologies that can lead to targeted violence. This project will utilize two primary referral pathways: the first will reach people in the spaces where the data tells us is the primary way in which people radicalize, which is online; the second referral pathway will occur through pre-existing Threat Assessment and Management Teams (TAMT). This project will work with local TAMTs to develop the necessary protocols to refer at-risk individuals  |

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|   | <p>and concerned bystanders to the appropriate service providers. This pathway model will consist of an online “redirect” campaign on mainstream and niche platforms, creation of a DVE prevention resource site, intake and triage hotline, and behavioral health case management services. This model will consist of capacity building grants and direct service costs to providers, staffing for the intake hotline, media buys for the online redirect campaign, and daily oversight and project management of the pathways model. This project will benefit all 14 Bay Area UASI jurisdictions and will be completed within the grant performance period.</p>   |
| <p>Violence Prevention Assessment Planning<br/><br/>\$200,000</p> | <p>The Bay Area UASI will hire a consultant to conduct a needs assessment of DVE and violence prevention efforts in the Bay Area UASI region. The needs assessment will consist of surveys, interviews, and workshops to better understand a service provider’s business model, staffing levels, case management protocols, client population and characteristics. The goal of the needs assessment is to identify appropriate prevention practitioners that can provide violence prevention and DVE services to at-risk individuals prone to extremist ideologies that can lead to targeted violence. Potential service providers are vetted against standard criteria and will also need to certify their compliance with the criteria. The deliverable for this project will be a regional gaps and need assessment utilizing the survey and interview data as well as secondary research data summarizing DVE and violence prevention efforts in the Bay Area UASI region. This needs assessment will cover all 14 UASI jurisdictions and be completed within the grant performance period.</p> |
| <p>Safe Schools Model<br/><br/>\$300,000</p>                      | <p>Building upon the recommendations in the California Association of School Counselors gaps and needs report funded under the 2022 DVE UASI Grant, this project will create and develop a violence prevention safe schools model that can be replicated across the region. This project will create tools, templates, and resources on violence prevention strategies that can be shared amongst school districts within the Bay Area UASI region. This project will help schools do the following: create and implement school Threat Assessment and Management Teams (TAMT), create violence prevention school safety plans, develop anonymous reporting systems, utilize restorative justice/social belonging practices, address truancy and positive attendance, learn steps for social emotional wellness, understand reintegration-recidivism reduction strategies, identify and secure training needs. This project will utilize a whole communities approach to violence prevention and combatting DVE and will be completed within the grant performance period.</p>                      |

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| <p>DVE Threat Bulletin</p> <p>\$82,000</p>                            | <p>The Bay Area has not been spared from DVE or targeted violence, and there is a great need for and interest in DVE and violence prevention training across the 12 county UASI regional footprint. This project will develop a comprehensive and inclusive DVE and violence prevention training curriculum for the region. The target population for the training will be school districts, community-based organizations, mental health practitioners, social service providers, community members, and law enforcement. This curriculum will consist of a mix of classroom style trainings and symposiums on the topics of violence prevention and domestic violent extremism. The trainings will be completed within the grant performance period.</p>  |
| <p>Prevention Practitioners Network Training</p> <p>\$200,000</p>     | <p>Now that the DVE Prevention PR actioners Network is established, the Bay Area UASI will hire a consultant to recruit and train frontline DVE and violence prevention practitioners to safely intervene with at-risk individuals. These service providers will offer a range of behavioral health services including counseling, case management, and wraparound services. The consultant will develop a training curriculum based on needs and legal considerations when providing services to at-risk individuals susceptible to radicalization that may lead to violence. Trainings will include an overview of violent extremism including groups, narratives, and how it manifests online and offline. Training will also include the latest evidence and trends on the pathways to violence including psychosocial factors and how to assess and effectively respond to risks and concerns that someone is mobilizing to violence. In addition to direct trainings, the consultant will create a virtual training resource hub and newsletter that provides practitioners access to the latest evidence-based practices and connections amongst the network. Practitioners will be recruited and trained throughout the 14 Bay Area UASI jurisdictions during the grant performance period.</p> |
| <p>Targeted Violence Prevention and DVE Training</p> <p>\$279,808</p> | <p>The Bay Area has not been spared from DVE or targeted violence, and there is a great need for and interest in DVE and violence prevention training across the 12 county UASI regional footprint. This project will develop a comprehensive and inclusive DVE and violence prevention training curriculum for the region. The target population for the training will be school districts, community-based organizations, mental health practitioners, social service providers, community members, and law enforcement. This curriculum will consist of a mix of classroom style trainings and symposiums on the topics of violence prevention and domestic violent extremism. The trainings will be completed within the grant performance period.</p>  |
| <p><b>Enhancing Cybersecurity (no minimum required)</b></p>           | <p><b>Project Description</b></p>   |

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| <p>AI Gaps and Needs Assessment</p> <p>\$200,000</p> | <p>Cyberattacks have seen a steady rise in the Bay Area, particularly with respect to ransomware, supply chain attacks, and critical infrastructure targets. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a new and evolving tool that can help streamline government efficiencies, but can also pose a risk or threat to our society. Responsible AI practices are essential in harnessing its potential as a helpful tool while mitigating the potential threats and challenges it can pose. This project will hire a consultant to conduct a regional AI gaps and needs assessment, create a strategy report, and develop a framework plan. The assessment, strategy report and framework plan will reference the President's Executive Order on the Safe, Secure and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence as well as the State Governor's Executive Order to prepare CA for the progress of AI. The project will be conducted during the grant performance period.</p>  |
| <p>Cybersecurity Training</p> <p>\$158,525</p>       | <p>To help keep the region updated on Cybersecurity threats, this project will create an elite and robust multi-disciplinary cyber training program for cybersecurity/IT professionals, emergency managers, critical infrastructure partners, law enforcement, and community members. This academy will use a tiered training model (i.e., beginner, intermediate, advanced) to ensure that all participant needs are being addressed and met. This training program will offer everything from cyber awareness trainings to industry-led cybersecurity certification trainings. The program will also explore cutting edge trainings like AI trainings and gamification style cyber range trainings. Cyber range trainings provide an interactive simulated platform representative of networks, systems, tools and applications. The project will be conducted during the grant performance period.</p>  |
| <p>Cybersecurity Exercise</p> <p>\$150,000</p>       | <p>Foreign and domestic cyber terrorism is on the rise and the Bay Area region remains a high-value target for cyberattacks. The San Francisco FBI has seen a steady rise in the following attacks: 1) ransomware - threat actors are becoming more destructive and are demanding larger ransoms than in recent years, 2) supply chain attacks - an unsecured vendor can be a point of vulnerability for computer intrusions and, 3) critical infrastructure - nation-state threat actors are actively targeting hospitals, the energy sector, academia, and emergency services. Building off 2023's cyber exercise, the Cyber Bridge Exercise will be designed to simulate real-world cyberattack scenarios that test our core capabilities, mission areas, and our ability to respond effectively. This exercise provides a forum for the region to come together and practice their identify, protect, detect, respond and recover capabilities before a real life cyber event occurs. Regular cyber trainings are needed in order to ensure that all staff are up to date on emerging threats and the new tools and resources that can be used to combat them. Project will be completed by the end of the grant performance period.</p> |

**Table 2: FY24 National Priority Project Funding Recommendation**

| <b>National Priority Area</b>                            | <b>Project Title</b>  | <b>Required 15%</b> | <b>Eligible 15%</b> | <b>Total</b>        |
|--|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Enhancing Intelligence and Information Sharing           | Fusion Center Operations  | \$ 892,260          | \$ 2,213,682        | \$ 3,105,942        |
| Enhancing the Protections of Soft Targets/Crowded Places | Training and Exercises  | \$ 892,260          | 0                   | \$ 892,260          |
| Enhancing Elections Security                             | Mobile Barrier Trailer Kits   | \$ 892,260          | 0                   | \$ 892,260          |
| Enhancing Community Preparedness and Resilience          | Community Preparedness Planning, Equipment, Training and Exercise   | \$ 892,260          | \$ 869,548          | \$ 1,761,808        |
| Combating Domestic Violent Extremism                     | Multiple Referral Pathways, Violence Prevention Assessment, Safe Schools Model, Prevention Practitioners Training | \$ 892,260          | \$ 869,548          | \$ 1,761,808        |
| Enhancing Cybersecurity                                  | AI Assessment, Cybersecurity Training and Exercise  | 0                   | \$ 508,525          | \$ 508,525          |
|  |   |                     |                     |                     |
| <b>Total FY24 National Priority Funding Allocation</b>   |   | <b>\$ 4,461,300</b> | <b>\$ 4,461,303</b> | <b>\$ 8,922,603</b> |