

Bay Area UASI



Bay Area Urban Areas Security Initiative Quarterly Newsletter

VOL 06 / ISSUE 02 / FEB 2020

Securing the Cities Grant Program



This past summer, the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction (CWMD) Office, a division of DHS, announced an expansion of the Securing the Cities (STC) Grant Program to include six new regions across the nation.

Funding, in the amount of \$2 million dollars to each agency, is designed to reduce the risk of the successful deployment of a radiological or nuclear weapon against major metropolitan areas in the United States. By assisting state and large regional partner agencies, capabilities in the detection, analysis, and reporting of nuclear and other radioactive materials outside of regulatory control will be built.

The San Francisco Bay Area was identified as one of the six regions eligible to apply for this grant program. Due to its unique geography, the region was already aware of these risks and had already begun developing a regional Preventive Radiological and Nuclear Detection program. In the last three years, the program formed partnerships with the 12 counties and 3 major cities of the Bay Area, developed a Concept of Operations, provided 20 jurisdictions with specialized equipment including Radiological Isotope Identification Devices and Personal Radiation Detector Backpacks, and conducted training classes. The equipment and trainings have already been utilized in conjunction with preparations for large scale public events like the Super Bowl and World Series parades, and other events.

The Bay Area UASI submitted a grant application on behalf of the newly defined, larger, Northern California Securing The Cities Region. The region, as described in the Notice of Funding Opportunity, includes 48 of California's 58 counties and Washoe County in Nevada. Letters of Commitment were provided by 12 Principal Partner agencies, including: the Sheriffs of Alameda, San Mateo (on behalf of the NCRIC), Sacramento, Fresno, and Washoe Counties, the Union Pacific Railroad,



Officers from the Marin County Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol received a cache of CBRNE protection equipment.

BART, the Port and Airport of San Francisco, UCSF, and the Police and Fire Departments of San Francisco. These agencies will act as representatives on an Executive Committee. Like the Bay Area UASI Approval Authority, they will provide oversight and guidance during the grant performance period.

San Francisco's Department of Emergency Management will act as the lead agency and The Bay Area UASI Management Team will handle the administrative aspects of the grant. The grant award is expected in the month of February.



Coronavirus Puts Local Health Departments on Alert

Public health departments from across the Bay Area are closely monitoring the spread of the Coronavirus, suspected of originating in Wuhan, China. As of February 3, with two confirmed cases of the virus in California, San Francisco activated the City's public health branch of the emergency operations center. This precautionary step provides for centralized response operations. Previously, a federal directive to all health departments in the United States required the development of plans to "rapidly and safely provide medication to the public in the event of a public health emergency". As part of regional preparedness efforts, Bay Area health departments formed the Bay Area Mass Prophylaxis Working Group to coordinate planning and response efforts. The working group has been planning and exercising for several years to respond to this type of public health crises. Both the delivery of emergency supplies and the opening of "points of dispensing" sites for the distribution of life-saving medications to the public have been tested. The working group includes health officials from local, county, and state levels and liaises with the Centers for Disease Control, the American Red Cross, and other non governmental agencies.

New Bay Area UASI Training & Exercise Program

The Bay Area UASI is pleased to introduce the new Bay Area Training and Exercise Program. This program is designed to provide Bay Area first responders, emergency management, public health officials, and members of community response groups with critical training & exercise opportunities that enhance response capabilities.

The UASI Management Team will provide the fiscal and administrative support while Sensemakers, LLC will be responsible for the day to day operation of the program, including, supporting workgroup meetings, offering training courses, and developing regional exercises. In addition to their work with first responders, they will also be tasked with developing new and exciting initiatives like community preparedness training and exercises that include our community partners.

A kickoff meeting and program overview for Training and Exercise Workgroup members is scheduled for Thursday, February 20, 2020. Thereafter, workgroup meetings will be held on the third Thursday of each month. The program will also hold a T&E Planning Workshop in early April to gather the information needed to create the Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan which identifies local and regional training and exercise needs/activities linked to core capabilities. A new and improved website will make registration and course offerings easier to navigate.

The first exercises of the new T&E program will be "Golden Eagle" the Bay Area Regional Critical Transportation Coordination Exercise, scheduled for September 17, 2020 and first responder drills in support of the Bay Ferry V Full-Scale Exercise, tentatively scheduled for fall 2020.

Active Shooter Training



A "Stop the Bleed" and "Run-Hide-Fight" training will soon be offered to San Francisco City Hall tenants. The goal is to train approximately 480 San Francisco city employees between March and June 2020 on techniques they can implement in the event of an active shooter or other catastrophic event occurring in City Hall. In addition to training, the project also includes installation of Stop the Bleed tourniquet equipment around the building.

Bay Area UASI Updates

Cybersecurity Preparedness Survey Results



The Bay Area UASI Cybersecurity working group recently conducted a cyber preparedness survey to gauge the level of preparedness and response capabilities that local governments have toward a cyber-attack on critical infrastructure and information systems. The work group will review

the results of the survey during the month of February and results will be reported in an upcoming newsletter.

Grocery Supply Chain Management Project

During a catastrophic disaster, widespread failures of the electric grid, the disruption of transportation networks, and the reduced availability of fuel will make getting food, water, and other supplies to the Bay Area a challenge.



A UASI-sponsored report indicates that unless the private sector's grocery distribution capabilities are quickly reestablished, the public sector's ability to respond to the population's demand for food will be unsuccessful. The longer supply remains insufficient – or uncertain – the more hoarding of available supplies will increase, deepening and extending the disruption to the grocery supply chain. Speedy restoration of flow is a strategic necessity to save lives and support overall response and recovery.

Based on the information gathered, the report's core recommendation is for both private and public sectors to begin a process of sustained engagement that can, over time, create mutual understanding and trust and serve as a foundation for practical strategic and operational progress. Identifying a party or parties that will proactively facilitate this process is a crucial first step. These findings will be used to shape the scope of work for the Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP) project focused on Commodity Points of Distribution (CPODs) planning which will kick-off in the Spring. For more information visit www.bayareauasi.org/grocerysupplychain

THIRA Update

The 2019 Threat and Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment (THIRA) and Stakeholder Preparedness Review (SPR) was approved by the UASI Approval Authority at the November 2019 meeting and submitted to FEMA. This annual risk assessment process helps communities determine, the threats and hazards they face, the impacts those threats have, capabilities they need to address them, and strategies for building capacity. The process for 2019 focused on developing standardized capability targets for Core Capabilities in the Mission Areas of Prevention, Protection, and Mitigation and a capability assessment (SPR) for the Core Capabilities completed in 2018. For 2020, the FEMA requirement focuses on the SPR and descriptions of whether the region's investments have closed gaps or sustained capabilities.

2020 National Homeland Security Conference

The National Homeland Security Association announced that registration is now open for the 2020 National Homeland Security Conference in Chicago, IL. The conference will be held June 29 - July 2, 2020 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago Riverside Center. This



annual conference gathers more than 1,500 attendees from the homeland security and emergency management disciplines, representing local, state, federal government, military and the private sector. Tracks for this year's conference include: Counterterrorism; Cybersecurity; Grants and Program Management; Lessons Learned from Recent Events; Public Health; Personnel- Policy and Law; Whole Community Approach to Homeland Security; Relevant Exhibitor Informational and Demonstration Sessions. For more information visit www.nationalhomelandsecurity.org



Compliance Corner & Management Team

Approval Authority Updates

Contra Costa Sheriff's Office has announced that Assistant Sheriff Thomas Chalk will replace Assistant Sheriff Christopher Simmons as the alternate member for the Approval Authority. Sonoma County announced that Sonoma Office of Emergency Management Deputy Director Jeff Duvall has replaced James Williams as the alternate member for the Approval Authority.

Compliance Corner.

When the FY20 application process kicked off last September, one of the most frequently asked questions was, "So, when will our agency get the money"? This compliance corner will update the next steps in the FY20 process.



After all proposals were reviewed to ensure they met all application requirements, the Approval Authority had an opportunity to review and provide input. In January, the approved applications were released to the appropriate hubs for prioritization based on the funding levels for that hub. The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is due to be released in the spring and by June, the Approval Authority will give its final approval of the prioritized applications. Then, all applicants will be notified of their awards.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) will be issued by November 1 and agencies will begin the signing process. In most cases, these MOUs will need to receive approval by a Board of Supervisors or other government body before any expenditures can begin. It is important to note that NO spending can occur before this approval has been granted! If you receive a notice that your agency has been awarded funding, please contact your UASI program manager if you need additional assistance.

For more information on the Bay Area UASI Project Proposal Process please visit www.bayareauasi.org/proposals

Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY

- 2/12: Cyber Framework and Planning Workshop
- 2/20: Training & Exercise Program Kick-off
- 2/27: Public Information & Warning Workgroup

MARCH

- 3/5: Emergency Management Workgroup
- 3/12: Approval Authority Meeting

APRIL

- 4/1: CBRNE Workgroup
- 4/8: Cyber Workgroup
- 4/15: Critical Transportation Subcommittee Meeting

In Memoriam

We are sad to announce that Commander Thomas Eugene Wright II passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family and friends on January 4, 2020 in San Francisco after a courageous battle with multiple Myeloma. He was 55.

Tom started his law enforcement career at the Alameda County Sheriff's Office in 1997 and achieved the rank of Commander in 2013. Prior to that, he served our country in the US Air Force from 1985 - 1988. As the Program Manager for the Bay Area UASI Training and Exercise Program, he was responsible for all aspects of training classes for the 26,000 members of the program.

Tom leaves behind his wife of 22 years, Leslie Wright, his sons, Thomas Wright and John Wright, his mother, Glenda Clash and his sisters, Debbie Palmer and Rebecca Smith. He was a wonderful husband, father and friend who will be dearly missed.