Bay Area UASI

Building Capabilities Under Challenging Times

2020 has been a year unlike any other. The spread of COVID-19 and the shutdown of the US economy resulted in mass layoffs and created hardships for millions. In California, wildfire season began early with major fires breaking out in August and causing thousands to seek emergency shelter. To date, more than 4 million acres have burned and air quality has been hazardous in many areas. Public Safety Power Shutoffs caused additional hardship for many. To top it off, earthquake activity in the region has led some to say, "what next?".

In preparation for multiple disasters, the Bay Area has always taken an All Hazards approach by building capabilities as well as leveraging grant initiatives that can be tied together and provide for a more cohesive response. During these unprecedented times, our collective preparations have mitigated some of the worst of the effects to our region.

To continue efforts that improve capabilities, funding from the FY 19 Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP) is being used to develop logistics plans for local governments to coordinate life-sustaining commodity distribution in an emergency response. During COVID-19, many jurisdictions were forced to manage both food and personal protective equipment distribution. This project learns from current experiences and builds upon prior UASI investments including the draft Regional Catastrophic Earthquake Logistics Response Plan and Companion Materials, the C-POD Planning Toolkit, and the Grocery Supply Chain Resilience Findings and Strategic Recommendations.

The recently awarded FY 20 RCPGP grant allows local jurisdictions to share lessons learned during the COVID-19 response, develop a regional pandemic preparedness framework, and update local plans for improved regional pandemic preparedness. The project includes an update to the California Mutual Aid Region II Medical Health Multi-Agency Coordination Guide, a public information toolkit, pre-scripted resource requests, an update to the Care and Shelter Planning Toolkit, Local Planning Technical Assistance, Long-Term Care Facility Training, and a region-wide exercise via "Golden Eagle".

In addition to the natural and health disasters, election controversies and cybersecurity issues have also arisen, requiring jurisdictions and organizations at all levels to take a number of steps to ensure a safe and secure election process. Based on identified Stakeholder Preparedness Review (SPR) threats and gaps, the federal government recently developed four new national priorities to be addressed with UASI program efforts: Enhancing Cybersecurity (including election security); Protecting soft targets/crowded places (including election security); Increasing Information Sharing; and Addressing emergent threats. As we move forward with these projects, our mission to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism will be enhanced.

Bay Area UASI Updates

Local Government Cybersecurity Toolkits & Templates!

Discover these new Cybersecurity Resources!

Available materials include:

Cyber Toolkit Executive Summary: Introduces and describes the contents of the Cyber Toolkit and explains the relationships between the plan templates and other related planning efforts.

Technology Recovery Plan Template: Identifies priorities, strategies, and resources that your organization/jurisdiction can use when recovering from cyber incidents.

Cyber Incident Response Plan Template: Provides guidance and structure so your organization/jurisdiction can develop a clear, actionable plan that can be quickly implemented in response to an actual or suspected cyber incident.

Cyber Framework: A Regional Cyber Incident Response Framework will assist organizations/ jurisdictions in strengthening their cyber incident response capabilities, engaging in county-wide/operational area cyber incident response efforts, and building a region-wide cyber incident response capability.

Behavioral and Medical Health in Shelters Con Ops, Toolkit, Trainings

The Medical and Public Health Workgroup and Association of Bay Area Health Officials have released a Concept of Operations and associated toolkit in support of medical/public health workers at emergency shelters. These resources outline a coordinated effort between government and the private sector to provide behavioral health services to people residing at these shelters. Materials such as disaster related job action sheets, data collection forms, and sample public messaging flyers have been developed. These timely resources provided the foundation for the recent Cal State East Bay free "Disaster Shelter Training for Nurses" class.

Additionally, these resources address issues, challenges, and information gaps revealed through recent disasters, and will improve the ability of Bay Area stakeholders to support the short- and long-term behavioral health resilience of those impacted by a disaster.
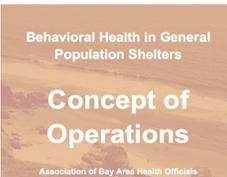
Securing the Cities Program Update

Since receiving the FY 19 Securing the Cities Grant award, the Bay Area UASI Management Team has been working with its Principal Partners to develop the STC Bay Area program. The goal of this program is to enhance capabilities to prevent the successful possession, movement and deployment of a nuclear

or radiological weapon. To accomplish this, a governance structure and Program Management Office are being created. Our principal partner agencies have committed to supporting the program through Letters of Agreement and an Executive decision-making committee has been formed to provide strategic guidance. Members of the Bay Area CBRNE work group act in an advisory capacity.

In year two, FY 20 grant funds have been provided to develop Operational Plans, Protocols, and Standard Operating Procedures, execute a Training and Exercise Plan, and develop procedures for the procurement and distribution of Field Detection Equipment.

Bay Area UASI Updates

Bay Area Training & Exercise Program

The Bay Area's Training and Exercise Program (BATEP) has been busy! The new website has had over 32,000 hits and has integrated state and federal/consortium training and exercise opportunities in an effort to establish a one-stop-shop program for the Bay Area. We encourage all participants to visit www.BATEP.org, sign-in, and update their account details.

So far this year, 41 courses have been conducted with over 1000 participants. The new National Emergency Response and Recovery Training Center (NERRTC) provides awareness-level e-learning courses. These courses, covering a broad range of topics from HazMat and Basic EMS/Mass Prophylaxis to Cybersecurity, is now also featured on our website.

Despite the challenges with disasters, stakeholder engagement has been maintained with three Training and Exercise Work Group meetings and six Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshops. The updated Charter, Annual Work plan, and 2021 Calendar of Training and Exercises will be published in November. Recent events have also identified gaps and opportunities to be addressed through the BATEP program.

In September, "National Preparedness Month" inspired several free virtual webinars, e-learning, and virtual table top exercises. October's Cybersecurity Awareness month was launched with a free on-line Cybersecurity basics course geared for both the private and public sector and is available until December 31. Additionally, on October 29, Cal OES and FEMA coordinated a Virtual Table Top Exercise "EarthEx "- a "Black Sky" scenario that the BA UASI promoted and attended.

Getting ready for 2021, and a restart of safe, in-person training, the BATEP worked in partnership with the State to develop COVID-19 in-person training safety protocols and a scoring methodology to identify the lowest risk, highest impact, life-safety courses. The resulting in-person training courses (3 law enforcement and 2 fire courses) will be offered in January 2021, leveraging the knowledge gained and best practices used across the industry. All in-person training is subject to cancellation should the COVID-19 situation worsen.

UASI Regional Training & Exercise Program

Featured upcoming virtual free courses for November and December include:

- Certified Cyber Security Awareness
- Volunteer Management
- Agency Emergency Planning
- Personal Preparedness for Staff and Volunteers Incident Command System
- National Emergency Response and Recovery Training Center (NERRTC): Awareness level e-learning
- FEMA: Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) Model overview
- Cal OSHA: Preventing COVID-19 at the Workplace Training for Employers and Workers
- Certified Cyber Incident Handling Engineer
- Donations Management
- Disaster Shelter Training for Nurses

For more information on the Bay Area UASI Training and exercise program, or to browse and register for courses, please visit www.batep.org

Bay Area Training and Exercise Program

Login   Contact Us

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FEMA to Host H... Model

Cal OSHA/ Depa... COVID-19

Approval Authority Updates

The November Approval Authority meeting will be conducted via Zoom. Detail will be posted at www.bayareauasi.org/approval-authority/november

Compliance Corner: 📌

Procurement non-compliance is costly! According to the Office of the Inspector General (OIG), over $800 million in spending on non-compliant, ineligible procurements has been identified. 69% of these negative findings resulting in recommendations for a return of grant funds.

This quarter's Compliance Corner will cover the Top Ten Purchasing Mistakes as defined by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG). Listed below, in the order of ineligible costs identified, are the following top ten errors:

1. Restricting full and open competition
2. Not performing a price or cost analysis
3. Engaging in sole-sourcing without documenting permissible exception
4. Continuing work under a sole-source contract after public emergency or exigency has ended
5. Not making and documenting efforts to take all socioeconomic affirmative steps
6. Awarding a "time and materials" contract without a ceiling price and proper justification
7. Awarding a "cost plus a percentage of cost" contract
8. Not including the required contract cost
9. Awarding to contractors who were suspended or debarred
10. Not properly documenting all steps of a procurement

Since the top issue is restricting full and open competition, when issuing RFPs please ensure you cast a broad net to reach the most qualified vendor. To do that, don't require unnecessary experience, don't use brand names, don't use an existing non-competitive contract using a vendor already on retainer, and do not use geographic preferences.

If you have additional questions about other identified purchasing issues, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at Mary.Landers@sfgov.org.

Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER

- 11/03: Election Day (Dont forget to VOTE!)
- 11/12: Approval Authority Meeting
- 11/12: BayRICS Board Meeting
- 11/19: BATEP Meeting

DECEMBER

- 12/02: Securing the Cities Workgroup Meeting
- 12/09: MARAC Meeting
- 12/10: Regional Medical & Public Health Workgroup Meeting
- 12/10: Public Information & Warning Workgroup Meeting

FY21 UASI Project Proposal Process

The Bay Area UASI management team is currently processing applications received from the FY21 Project Proposal process. The online FY 2021 project proposal submissions began on September 18, 2020 and closed on October 9, 2020. The Management Team received a total of 155 applications amounting to approximately $33,125,313 which is $8,315,313 more than the anticipated funding allocation of $24,810,000. In January 2021 Hub Proposal will be prioritized for funding by voting members. These prioritized projects will be presented to the Approval Authority in March, 2021. For more information on the FY21 Project Proposal Process visit:

 www.bayareauasi.org/proposals