

Bay Area UASI



Bay Area Urban Areas Security Initiative Quarterly Newsletter

VOL 09 / ISSUE 03 / AUG 2022

Homeland Security Conference

This year's Homeland Security Conference was held from July 11 -14 at the Huntington Convention Center in downtown Cleveland. Attended by approximately 1200 homeland security professionals, the conference offered innovative and informative sessions covering topics on law enforcement, fire service, emergency management, counter-terrorism, grant management, and many others.

The keynote speaker for this year was Kirk Yeager, PhD, an FBI and JPO C-IED Senior Explosive Scientist and Andrew Seiffert, Senior Counselor for Infrastructure Security at DHS/Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) who discussed the 2020 Christmas Day bombing in Nashville that destroyed a telecommunications facility.

In addition, a number of tours were conducted, including World War II Submarine USS Cod, the last fully intact WWII American submarine. Attendees were also able to take security tours of Progressive Field (Home of the MLB Cleveland Guardians) and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Several members of the Bay Area UASI Management Team also took part in discussion panels. In one session, staff members Lloyd Shand and Mikyung Kim-Molina were joined by Executive Director Susana Rojas from Calle 24 Latino Cultural District as they discussed

information sharing techniques to change public behavior through the use of trusted communicators. They explained San Francisco's extensive, culturally competent and diverse outreach efforts that focus on vulnerable populations and equity while contributing to preventing the spread of COVID-19.

STC Program Manager Dominic Yin coordinated a panel discussion that included the FBI's "Dogfather" and the unique canine and dog handler capabilities that contribute to lifesaving bomb detection. National position requirements and credentialing for dog handlers were also discussed.



A panel discussion facilitated by Bay Area UASI General

Manager Craig Dziedzic featured panel members Jodi Traversaro, UASI Regional Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention (TVTP) Program Manager, and Ryan Garfinkel, Strategic Engagement Lead from the DHS Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships (CP3). As the #1 identified threat in the United States, domestic violent extremism is a UASI National Priority Area and the Bay Area's Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention (TVTP) program was spotlighted for its unique collaborations and prevention frameworks.



TVTP Update

The Targeted Violence, and Terrorism Prevention Program (TVTP) has partnered with the Northern California Regional Intelligence Center (NCRIC) to coordinate hundreds of prevention training classes within the region as well as working collaboratively with school districts, houses of worship, and organizations like the San Francisco Interfaith Council.

On August 17 at 10 AM, online gaming platform giants Electronic Arts and Roblox will participate in the CA Violence Prevention Practitioners Network Virtual Quarterly Mtg. In addition to entertaining millions of people, these companies serve as critical outlets that mitigate social isolation while preventing and protecting players from disruptive behavior and potential harm. The University of Maryland's National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism program will also provide an update.

To become a NCRIC partner and receive threat bulletins and information on training opportunities, please visit the NCRIC website at: <https://ncric.ca.gov/>. For more information on the Virtual Quarterly meeting, please email the UASI at: ViolencePrevention@batep.org.

Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Update

In support of ongoing pandemic planning efforts, the Bay Area UASI will host a Regional Pandemic Planning Workshop on Aug. 31 in San Mateo County. To build a path for collaborative pandemic preparedness across the Bay Area, jurisdictions will participate in this collaborative planning process and discuss the common gaps and challenges identified during the preparation of the regional Pandemic Preparedness Framework. The goal of this workshop is increased collaboration with a common vision for Regional Pandemic Preparedness. Activities will include a review of common strengths and challenges based on COVID-19 response efforts and a discussion of tools and resources to improve whole community pandemic preparedness.

Registration is required for this event. Please click on this link to access the registration page: <https://BAUASIPandemicWorkshop.eventbrite.com>.

For additional questions, please contact: Christophe Arnold at christophe.arnold@sfgov.org or Susie Schmitz at Susie@constantassociates.com.





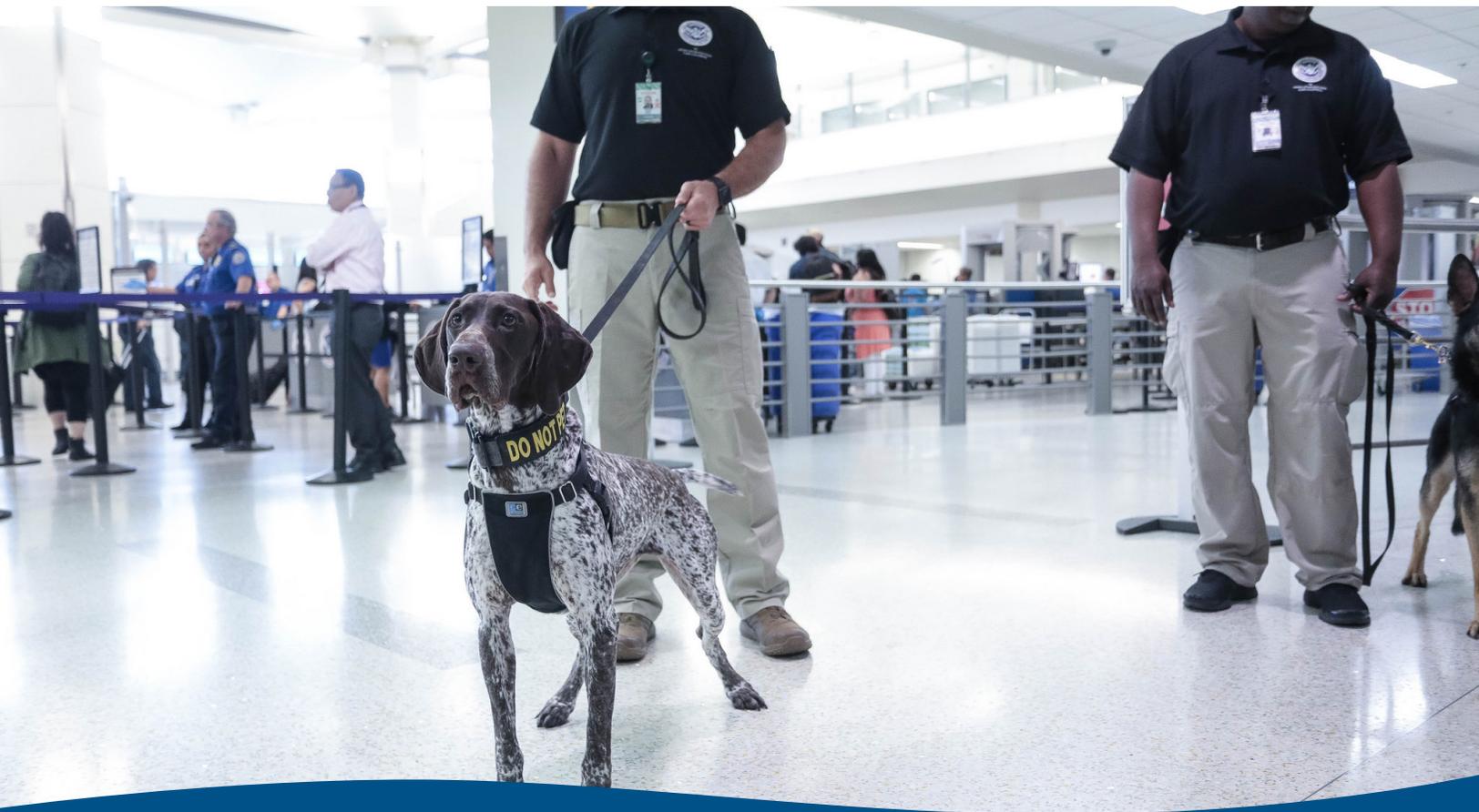
STC Update

The regional Securing the Cities Grant is now in year 4 of its 10 year award. Recently, the program received additional funding in the amount of \$950,000 to continue purchasing equipment and conducting training. We continue to purchase Personal Radiation Devices (PRDs) but delivery of some of them has been delayed due to supply chain issues. In addition, the review of backpack radiation detectors and mobile mounted detectors is ongoing with final selection planned for the near future.

On August 2nd and 3rd, the STC Program will host Primary Screener Training at San Francisco Airport. This class trains primary screeners to perform a preliminary radiological assessment with a Personal Radiation Detector (PRD). Training also includes operating a PRD to detect radiation, locate a source, measure radiation levels, assess the threat status of a situation, categorize threats, and adjudicate alarms. We expect to train approximately 40 students and subsequently will distribute PRD equipment.

Risk Management Program Update

The Bay Area UASI has been busy updating our 2022 Threat & Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) and Stakeholder Performance Review (SPR) as well as developing a 3 - 5 year strategy for the region. Recently completed was the conduct of capability assessments and a gap analysis. Stakeholders provided descriptions of capability gaps, identified strategies for closing the gaps and performed quantitative estimates on current capabilities. On June 30, the region utilized Cal COP to add Special Events for the 2022-23 DHS Special Events Data Call. Risk Management Program Manager Amy Ramirez will complete the THIRA/SPR and present them to the Approval Authority for approval and submit it to FEMA by the December 31 deadline as required.





Compliance Corner



Each year, DHS/ FEMA issues guidelines for its grant applications. When reviewing these guidelines, they also review evolving national security threats and evaluate the nation's risk profiles to sets priorities for the allocation of funding.



For FY 22, they identified six (6) priority areas and determined that recipients should allocate a total of 30 percent of UASI award funds across these priority areas. As indicated below, four of the priorities have minimum spending requirements totaling 12 percent of our awards - the remaining 18 percent across the priorities has flexibility for recipients to allocate on an as needed basis.

The following are the six priority areas for FY 2022, along with the minimum corresponding percentage of UASI funds that are required to be allocated:

1. Enhancing the protection of soft targets/ crowded places – 3%
2. Enhancing information and intelligence sharing and analysis – 3%
3. Combating domestic violent extremism – 3%
4. Enhancing cybersecurity – no minimum percent
5. Enhancing community preparedness and resilience – 3%
6. Enhancing election security – no minimum percent

Your UASI Management Team worked on regional projects to satisfy these requirements and there was no impact on Hub project funding amounts. As these projects are released for review, please let us know if you have any questions. Please contact Janell Myhre at Janell.Myhre@sfgov.org if you have any questions.

Management Team Updates

Congratulations to Christophe Arnold who has been promoted to the regional program manager position overseeing the RCPGP grant initiatives. He previously served as an emergency services coordinator for the Bay Area Training and Exercise Program (BATEP).

Welcome to Jackelyn Koo and Selina Ng! Jackelyn was recently hired as the Senior Management Assistant to manage office operations, website administration, and special ad hoc projects. She previously served for 5 years as a research analyst and budget analyst for the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD). Selina is the Training and Exercise Program Administrative Specialist who works with the BATEP team to administer the training and exercises throughout the region. She previously worked for San Francisco State University (SFSU) as an administrative assistant and as a real estate property rental operations specialist for a private company.



Upcoming Events

- 8/17 - TVTP Workshop (see page 2)
- 8/31 - RCPGP Workshop (see page 2)
- 9/07 - Emergency Management Work Group
- 9/08 - Approval Authority Meeting
- 9/15 - BayRICS Radio Operators Advisory Group
- 9/22 - Medical/ Public Health Work Group
- 9/29 - Public Information and Warning Work Group

Ongoing: Bay Area Training Classes. Please see www.batep.org for additional information.