



**Council  
Communication**  
Office of the City Manager

**Date**

January 7, 2008

**Agenda Item No.** 51

**Roll Call No.** 08-

**Communication No.** 08-003

**Submitted by:** Phillip C. Vorlander.

**Chief of the Fire Department**

**AGENDA HEADING:**

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Des Moines and Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division supporting the Des Moines Fire Department's Hazardous Materials Response Team as a member of the Iowa Statewide Terrorism CBRNE Response Group.

**SYNOPSIS:**

Execution of a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Des Moines and Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division for the Des Moines Fire Department's participation as a member of the Iowa Statewide Terrorism CBRNE Response Group and for the receipt of funding from the federal Homeland Security Grant Program.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The City of Des Moines will share in the federal Homeland Security Grant Program funding for the purchase of equipment and support of training, and exercising required for statewide deployment to incidents involving terrorism or the use of a weapon of mass destruction (WMD) as a State of Iowa resource. The exact amount of funding is dependent on the requirements to meet standards of each member team and the grant monies made available for support of this mission.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

In addition to the City of Des Moines, the Iowa Statewide Terrorism CBRNE Response Group consists of the fire departments of Cedar Rapids, Council Bluffs, Davenport, Dubuque, Sioux City, and Waterloo. All departments have the capability and capacity to timely deploy a Type 1 HazMat Team as defined by the Federal Department of Homeland Security (except for secure communications capability), and have agreed to enter into an agreement with the State of Iowa for the cooperative provision of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE, aka HazMat) response services to terrorism/Weapon of Mass Destruction (WMD) events as a state asset, subject to conditions described in the agreement, as part of a coordinated response asset along with select law enforcement tactical (SWAT) and emergency ordinance disposal (EOD) teams, including those of the Des Moines Police Department.

The State of Iowa has allocated federal Homeland Security Grant Program funds for support of this initiative and these monies will serve to enhance the resources and provide training and exercising opportunities that will improve the service provided by existing agreements to our customer counties of Polk, Warren, Boone, Dallas, Marion, Marshall, Story, and Webster.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: February 12, 2007

Roll Call Number: [07-293](#)

Action: [Intergovernmental](#) 28E Agreement with Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division for Metro Special Tactics and Response (S.T.A.R.) Team's participation as a member of Iowa's WMD Tactical Officers Task Force Program. ([Council Communication No. 07-048](#)) Moved by Kiernan to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: August 08, 2005

Roll Call Number: [05-1925](#)

Action:Resolution, whereby the City of Des Moines adopted the implementation of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) to assist managers and responders from different jurisdictions and disciplines, to work together more effectively to handle emergencies and disasters. ([Council Communication 05-433](#)) – moved by Brooks to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

Continued participation as a member of the Iowa Statewide Terrorism CBRNE Response Group and the concomitant interaction with the statewide teams from other disciplines and the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division to implement the Iowa Homeland Security Program and the associated receipt of federal Homeland Security Grant Program funds.