

 <div style="text-align: center;"> <h1 style="margin: 0;">Council</h1> <h1 style="margin: 0;">Communication</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">Office of the City Manager</p> </div>	<b>Date:</b>	April 8, 2013
	<b>Agenda Item No.</b>	<b>32C</b>
	<b>Roll Call No.</b>	<b><u>13-0570</u></b>
	<b>Communication No.</b>	<b><u>13-159</u></b>
	<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>Judy A. Bradshaw, Chief of Police</b>

## **AGENDA HEADING:**

The Police Department requests the purchase of a robotic digital system upgrade for the bomb robot from ICOR Technology Inc., located at 935 Ages Drive, Ottawa, Ontario Canada (Hany Guirguis, President). The robot was originally purchased from ICOR Technologies in July 2009 utilizing Homeland Security Grant funding. This upgrade will improve the functional capabilities of the bomb robot.

## **SYNOPSIS:**

Recommend approval of the request to purchase a robotic digital system upgrade for the Police Department's bomb robot. The purchase of the robotic system digital controls will aid in the overall operation of the bomb robot, create efficiencies, and improve officer safety. The addition of wider screens and a more mobile camera mounting will afford the technician a broader view of the area in which the robot is able to maneuver. This will reduce issues of the robot becoming stuck or caught on items thus increasing efficiency.

The new, factory installed upgrade will add digital video equipment giving the bomb technicians better optical clarity to identify the type of device, create a video evidence recording, and clearly identify any other hazardous objects surrounding the device. The upgrade includes a mounting device for the x-ray machine which will enable the robot to show the technician what is inside the device or what device is inside of another container. This addition will improve safety and efficiencies by eliminating the need for the technician to collect the x-rays manually. The new digital controls will greatly improve the distance between the technician and the robot. The robot will no longer have to be in the line-of-sight of the technician in order to function. The installation of an antenna on the bomb vehicle will transmit the signal to the robot even if the technician is inside the vehicle.

## **FISCAL IMPACT:**

Amount: \$54,738.25

Funding Source: The Homeland Security Reallocated of the 2010 EOD Grant funding SP751 POL985309 would be included in the Recommended Budget Detail FY13-14 page 229

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (IHLSM) identified a funding opportunity available to individual agencies for the support or enhancement of existing specialty team operations. These funds were originally earmarked for approved specialty teams under the FY 2010 grant awards throughout the State of Iowa. The funds were intended to be distributed between multiple projects previously approved through the statewide process.

Several of the previously approved programs have not been able to expend their grant funds in a timely manner and have notified the IHLSM that they will not be able to utilize the funding as they originally intended. The City of Des Moines was not one of these programs. The IHLSM then offered application opportunities for these funds to agencies that have already exhausted or will exhaust their funding by the end of the grant period. The items being purchased must be reviewed and approved as they relate to the State of Iowa's Homeland Security Initiative and must enhance the original 2010 grant scope of work. The Des Moines Police Department made several applications for equipment that needs to be upgraded or replaced due to functionality. At this time we have only been approved for this singular purchase.

This purchase of the robotic system digital control upgrade supports the initiative mandate due to the fact that the robot was originally purchased in 2009 utilizing Homeland Security grant funding and this upgrade adds to the functionality and operation of the robot. The upgrade improves greatly the visual opportunities of the bomb technician as they maneuver the robot into position, identify the device, x-ray the container as well as the device, and transport the device to the mitigation container. The upgrade allows for the robot to be remotely controlled from a greater distance. The new digital controls will transmit signals to the robot through improved connectivity allowing the robot to be operated from inside the bomb vehicle or out of line-of-sight of the technician. This upgrade will vastly improve the safety of the bomb technicians and allow the robot to perform tasks remotely that the technician today must perform manually.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: November 9, 2009

Roll Call Number: [09-2033](#)

Action: [ICOR](#) Technology (Hany Guirguis, President) for one bomb disposal robot for use by the Bomb Squad, \$67,384.35. ([Council Communication No. 09-788](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1.

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

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE**

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