


# COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	<b>20-237</b>	Meeting:	<b>June 8, 2020</b>
	Agenda Item:	<b>44 45 46</b>	Roll Call:	<b>20-0925</b>
	Submitted by:	<b>Dana Wingert, Chief of Police</b>		

## AGENDA HEADING:

Approval to accept the 2019 Homeland Security Grant award as well as the 2017 Homeland Security Supplemental award, while approving the purchase of remote operated explosive ordnance robot systems from Safeware Inc. (4403 Forbes Boulevard Lanham, MD, Ed Simons, President), to support the eight (8) statewide Explosive Ordnance Detection (EOD) teams.

## SYNOPSIS:

The Des Moines Police Department recommends approval of the acceptance of funding through the 2019 Homeland Security Grant program and the supplemental funding from the 2017 Homeland Security Grant program. The department also recommends the purchase of three (3) new remote operated explosive ordnance robot systems from Safeware Inc. The Andos F6 robot platform, currently used by each of the eight (8) statewide teams, will soon reach the end of serviceable life. The robot is needed to maintain the required capabilities for FBI/National Bomb Squad Commanders Advisory Board (NBSCAB) accreditation as a Type 1 bomb and explosive device response team. Since there are eight (8) teams and the estimated cost of the new robot systems is extensive, the replacement process will require incremental purchases depending on the amount of available funding. The City of Des Moines annually serves as the fiscal agent for the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) to support the eight (8) statewide EOD teams.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

<u>Amount:</u>	\$881,449.00	2019 Homeland Security Grant Program
	<u>61,786.40</u>	2017 Supplemental Homeland Security Grant Program
	\$943,235.40	Cost of the three (3) robot systems from Safeware Inc.

Funding Source: Recommended Operating Budget, Department Detail for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Page 207.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- This grant program funding is specifically designated to assist these teams to maintain a high level of capabilities in order to remain FBI/NBSCAB accredited as a Type 1 bomb and explosive device team. Part of the necessary capabilities requires each team be equipped with a remote operated explosive ordnance robot system. The Andros F6 robot system, currently used by the teams, will soon reach the end of serviceable life due to new standards being issued by NBSCAB.

- The new standards will require the purchase of new robot systems for each team to be built to meet these new standards. The cost of the new robots is extensive and purchasing a robot system for each team will require an incremental approach to replace all eight (8) systems.
- The amount of funding available in the 2019 HSGP (\$881,449) is not enough to complete the first phase of the replacement plan. Three (3) robot systems were to be purchased from the 2019 grant funding, with the remaining robot systems to be purchased with future grant funding. The State of Iowa Homeland Security Office was able to find supplemental funding available from the 2017 HSGP to allow the purchase for the three (3) robot systems.
- The remote operated robot has multiple capabilities and is a vital piece of equipment to address explosive devices. The robot enables bomb technicians to examine, analyze and disarm explosive devices from the safety of a remote location. It is controlled through a closed-circuit computer communications system with cameras for visual observation. The robot is designed to mimic human movement as closely as possible for precision and accuracy.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE**

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

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE**

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