


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	22-004	Meeting:	January 10, 2022
	Agenda Item:	38	Roll Call:	22-0055
	Submitted by:	Dana Wingert, Chief of Police		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approval to purchase a remote operated robot system from Safeware Inc., 4403 Forbes Boulevard, Lanham, Maryland 20706, Edward A. Simons, President, on behalf of the certified Explosive Ordinance Detection (EOD) statewide teams.

SYNOPSIS:

The Des Moines Police Department recommends approval to purchase a new remote operated explosive ordnance robot system from Safeware Inc. The Andos F6 robot platform, currently used by each of the seven (7) 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.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$314,411.80

Funding Source: The 2021 Homeland Security Explosive Ordnance Device Grant on page 199 of the FY2022 Adopted Operating Budget, Special Revenues and Other Funds.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The City of Des Moines serves as the fiscal agent for the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) to support the seven (7) statewide EOD teams. This grant program funding is specifically designated to assist these teams to maintain accreditation with the FBI NBSCAB as a Type 1 bomb and explosive device team. To remain accredited, each team must 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 robot system will be built to meet new accreditation standards. Each team is required to replace the current equipment. The cost of the new robots is extensive and purchasing a robot system for each team required incremental purchases to replace all seven (7) systems. Three (3) robot systems were purchased with the 2017 and 2019 Homeland Security grant funding. Three (3) additional systems were purchased from the 2020 Homeland Security grant. The requested purchase will replace the final robot. (Previously there were eight (8) accredited statewide bomb teams. Cedar Rapids and Linn County teams merged in 2021.)

- 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):

Date: October 18, 2021

Roll Call Number: [21-1570](#)

Action: [Acceptance](#) of Homeland Security Weapons of Mass Destruction and Explosive Ordnance Detection 2021 Grant Awards. ([Council Communication No. 21-435](#)) Moved by Boesen to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: November 23, 2020

Roll Call Number: [20-1910](#)

Action: [Purchase](#) of three remote operated robot systems from Safeware Inc. (Edward A. Simons, President) for the Statewide Explosive Ordnance Detection Teams using funds from 2020 Homeland Security Grant Program award, \$943,235. ([Council Communication No. 20-504](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: June 8, 2020

Roll Call Number: [20-0926](#)

Action: [Acceptance](#) of the 2019 Homeland Security Grant Program Award in the amount of \$881,449 for the proposed purchase of remote operated robot systems. ([Council Communication No. 20-237](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: June 8, 2020

Roll Call Number: [20-0925](#)

Action: [Acceptance](#) of the Supplemental 2017 Homeland Security Grant Program Award in the amount of \$61,786 for the proposed purchase of remote operated robot systems. ([Council Communication No. 20-237](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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