


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	23-067	Meeting:	February 6, 2023
	Agenda Item:	32	Roll Call:	23-170
	Submitted by:	Dana Wingert, Chief of Police		

AGENDA HEADING:

Recommend approval to submit applications for the 2023 Homeland Security Grant Program on behalf of the statewide Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD/SWAT) and the Explosive Ordnance Detection (EOD) teams. Approval is also recommended to apply for the 2019 Homeland Security Reallocation grant on behalf of the WMD/SWAT statewide teams. The City of Des Moines will serve as the financial agent for these grants should an award be granted.

SYNOPSIS:

The U. S. Department of Homeland Security has allocated funds to state and local governments through the Federal Homeland Security grant program for approved initiatives supporting national priorities and state strategies directed towards prevention, response, mitigation, and recovery efforts related to targeted activities. The State of Iowa has implementation plans to enhance and support WMD/SWAT and EOD task forces. The City of Des Moines has been requested by the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management director to serve as the financial agent and authorized representative for the administration of the 2023 Homeland Security grant program and the 2019 Reallocation Homeland Security grant program.

The Police Department recommends approval for the submission of all three (3) applications to request funds for equipment to sustain and expand the capabilities of the statewide task forces. The funds will be utilized to replace expired safety equipment and purchasing new equipment need to assist the teams in their assessment of incidences in low light settings. The statewide task force must remain trained and certified to qualify for funding through this grant opportunity.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount:

- 2023 Homeland Security Grant: WMD/SWAT - \$734,552 and EOD - \$471,473
- 2019 Reallocation WMD/SWAT Homeland Security grant - \$187,712

Funding Source: Adopted Operating Budget Department Detail for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023. Police department, Special Revenues and Other Funds, Page 200.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The City of Des Moines has received Homeland Security grants in support of the WMD/SWAT and the EOD Bomb teams in previous years including 2022. The purchases made with this

funding must support specific core capabilities related to terrorism preparedness and each team must receive/maintain certification from the Department of Homeland Security to be eligible for support through the grants. There are presently five (5) certified WMD/SWAT teams and seven (7) certified bomb teams statewide.

- The statewide teams meet monthly to discuss processes, equipment needs, and training requirements. The equipment is reviewed for functionality, dependability, and sustainability. Training is required to maintain certification and ensure the teams are current with up-to-date Homeland Security mandates. Any equipment or training needs are listed in order of priority by team members to ensure immediate needs are included in the application for funding. The prioritized list of needed equipment and training is then reviewed by the State of Iowa Homeland Security Coordinator to ensure the items agree with a very specific list of approved equipment and training provided by the Federal Homeland Security Bureau. Once the list receives approval, the items are presented to a governance committee for further review and approval. These processes are completed prior to applying for grant funding.
- The Homeland Security grants provide critical equipment and training for the statewide teams to remain prepared to support federal initiatives and maintain statewide response to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive devices to support public safety. The purchased equipment will allow these teams to maintain their efficient effectiveness while remaining compliant with national requirements for federal certification.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: October 24, 2022

Roll Call Number: [22-1650](#)

Action: [Acceptance](#) of 2022 Homeland Security Explosive Ordnance Detection grant award. ([Council Communication No. 22-477](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Boesen. Motion Carried 6-1. Nays: Sheumaker.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Approval to accept the grant if awarded.

For more information on this and other agenda items, please call the City Clerk's Office at 515-283-4209 or visit the Clerk's Office on the first floor of City Hall, 400 Robert D Ray Drive. Council agendas are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon preceding Monday's Council meeting. Citizens can also request to receive meeting notices and agendas by email by calling the Clerk's Office or sending their request via email to cityclerk@dmgov.org.