

# COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	<b>24-041</b>	Meeting:	<b>February 5, 2024</b>
	Agenda Item:	<b>27I</b>	Roll Call:	<b>24-0191</b>
	Submitted by:	<b>Dana Wingert, Chief of Police</b>		

## AGENDA HEADING:

Recommend approval to submit applications for the 2024 Homeland Security Grant Program on behalf of the statewide Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD/SWAT) and the Explosive Ordnance Detection (EOD) task force 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 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 implemented plans to enhance and support certified statewide 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 2024 Homeland Security grant program.

The Police Department recommends approval for the submission of these 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 needed to support the effective preparedness capabilities of the teams. The statewide task force must remain trained and certified to qualify for funding through this grant opportunity.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: 2024 Homeland Security Grant: WMD/SWAT - \$414,173 and EOD - \$443,346

Funding Source: Adopted Operating Budget Department Detail for Fiscal Year (FY) 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 2023. 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 preparedness and effectiveness while remaining compliant with national requirements for federal certification.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: February 6, 2023

Roll Call Number: [23-0170](#)

Action: [Submitting](#) applications for the 2023 Homeland Security Grant Program on behalf of the statewide WMD/SWAT and the EOD teams with an additional application for the 2019 Homeland Security Reallocation grant on behalf of the WMD/SWAT statewide teams. ([Council Communication No. 23-067](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Boesen. Motion Carried 6-1. Nays: Sheumaker.

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE****ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

Acceptance of the proposed funding.

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