


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	24-380	Meeting:	October 7, 2024
	Agenda Item:	34	Roll Call:	24-1362
	Submitted by:	Dana Wingert, Chief of Police		

AGENDA HEADING:

Recommend approval to accept the 2024 Homeland Security Grant awards on behalf of the statewide Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD/SWAT) in the amount of 156,205 and the Explosive Ordnance Detection (EOD) teams in the amount of \$253,340. The City of Des Moines will serve as the financial agent for these grant awards.

SYNOPSIS:

The Police Department recommends acceptance of the 2024 Homeland Security grant awards on behalf of the statewide WMD/SWAT and EOD task forces. These funds will be utilized to replace expired safety equipment and purchasing new equipment needed to support officer safety through the wearing of air purifying masks and the assessment of unidentified containers. The purchases will enable the teams to sustain and expand their capabilities to be prepared/response to critical incidences related to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive weapons.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: WMD \$156,205 EOD \$253,340

Funding Source: Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Adopted Operating Budget, Police Department, Special Revenues and Other Funds, Page 218

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 EOD bomb teams statewide.
- The leaders of each team meet monthly to discuss response processes, procedures, and protocols. They also evaluate and prioritize equipment needs, as well as training requirements. When equipment is recommended for replacement or a new purpose, the team leaders perform a review of the equipment for functionality, dependability, and sustainability. Training that is required to maintain certification and ensure the teams are current with up-to-date Homeland Security

mandates is discussed and coordinated among the team leaders. Any equipment or training needs are then prioritized to ensure immediate needs are requested 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 funding supplied through the Homeland Security Grant Program will support the necessary equipment and training to allow these teams to maintain their effectiveness while remaining compliant with national requirements for federal certification.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: February 5, 2024

Roll Call Number: [24-0191](#)

Action: [Submittal](#) of applications for the 2024 Homeland Security Grant Program on behalf of the statewide WMD/SWAT and the EOD task force teams. ([Council Communication No. 24-041](#))
Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Westergaard. Motion Carried 6-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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