

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	25-179	Meeting:	May 5, 2025
	Agenda Item:	39	Roll Call:	25-0669
	Submitted by:	Mike McTaggart, Chief of Police		

AGENDA HEADING:

Recommend approval to accept the 2021 Homeland Security Reallocation Grant award in the amount of \$225,000 and approval to purchase updated x-ray equipment to supply the certified statewide Explosive Ordnance Detection (EOD) teams. The City of Des Moines will serve as the financial agent for this grant award.

SYNOPSIS:

The Police Department recommends acceptance of the 2021 Homeland Security Reallocation grant award on behalf of the statewide EOD task forces. These funds will be utilized to replace expired x-ray equipment needed to support the operation of the statewide certified teams. The purchases will enable the teams to sustain and expand their capabilities to be prepared and response to critical incidences related to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive weapons.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: EOD \$225,000

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 Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)/Special Weapons And Tactics (SWAT) and the EOD Bomb teams in previous years including 2024. 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 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.
- This grant is a reallocation of unspent Homeland Security grant funds from 2021. The processes and regulations remain the same as the annual grant awards. The performance period is from April 1, 2025, through July 31, 2025, with no matching fund requirement.
- 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): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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