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Date October 19, 2020

APPROVING AGREEMENT WITH IOWA HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT (HSEMD) FOR AWARD OF 2019 CYBERSECURITY RISK REDUCTION GRANT AND MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) WITH HSEMD FOR HSEMD TO RETAIN SUCH GRANT FUNDING FOR USE BY STATE OFFICE OF CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER (OCIO), AND TERMINATING 2019 MOA FOR SAME

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (Homeland Security) allocates funds to states and local governments through the federal Homeland Security Grant Program for approved initiatives supporting national priorities and state strategies directed toward prevention, response, mitigation and recovery efforts related to terrorist attacks; and

WHEREAS, under the State Homeland Security Program, Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department (HSEMD) may retain grant funds for expenditure by the State of Iowa with the Subrecipient's written consent; and

WHEREAS, in September 2019, HSEMD awarded the City, as subrecipient, a Cyber Security Risk Reduction grant in the amount of \$655,000; and

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2019 by Roll Call No. 19- 1507, the City Council approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOA) with the HSEMD under which the City consented to such award as the Subrecipient and the State of Iowa Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) would be responsible for performance of the scope of work and all Grant Award Document requirements; and

WHEREAS, due to changes in such grant requirements by Homeland Security, HSEMD requires the City to enter into a new Award Document awarding the \$655,000 Cybersecurity Risk Reduction grant; and

WHEREAS, in response to such Award Document changes, the parties have agreed to terminate the MOA and enter into a new MOA in which the OCIO would be responsible for all grant Award Document requirements; and

WHEREAS, the City Information Technology Department has determined that approval of such Grant Award Document and MOA is in the best interests of the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Des Moines Iowa that the above described Grant Award Document and Memorandum of Agreement between Iowa Department of Homeland Emergency Management and City of Des Moines, Iowa, a copy of which is in the City Clerk's Office, is hereby approved and the Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute said Award Document and MOA on behalf of the City.



Roll Call Number

Agenda Item Number

31

Date October 19, 2020

(Council Communication No. 20-458)

Moved by _____ to adopt.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ Ann DiDonato
Ann DiDonato
Assistant City Attorney

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
COWNIE				
BOESEN				
GATTO				
GRAY				
MANDELBAUM				
VOSS				
WESTERGAARD				
TOTAL				

CERTIFICATE

I, P. Kay Cmelik, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

MOTION CARRIED APPROVED

Mayor

City Clerk

Item 31 – Agreement with Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department (IHSEMD) for award of 2019 Cybersecurity Risk Reduction Grant and Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with IHSEMD to retain such grant funding for use by State of Iowa Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) and terminating 2019 MOA for same. AND Item 32 – Agreement with Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department (IHSEMD) for award of 2020 Cyber Risk Reduction Grant and Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with IHSEMD for IHSEMD to retain such grant funding for use by State of Iowa Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO).

Question 1: Is this arrangement because the City is eligible for this funding, but that State is the one that currently does the type of cyber security work that the grant funds go toward so we are using this as a mechanism to get the funds to the State? If not, what is the purpose of the subrecipient relationship?

Response 1: It is the latter. This is a grant pass-through for work that the State does assisting political subdivisions with cybersecurity. In 2010, the State of Iowa requested the City of Des Moines serve as the recipient of this sub-grant and pass-through the administration of the grant to the State Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO). The grant has been renewed annually since then.

Question 2: What are the funds used for/what is the scope of work for the grant?

Response 2: The OCIO uses the funding to provide cybersecurity vulnerability scanning capabilities for any Iowa school district, county, or city that requests it. A particular focus has been on strengthening cybersecurity across the 99 counties before the 2020 elections. Thus, the City has had less involvement in the State's cybersecurity efforts while election security has been the focus.

Question 3: Please provide an overview of how City of Des Moines and our Information Technology (IT) Department will use the Cybersecurity Risk Reduction Funds.

Response 3: The grant is a pass-through to the State of Iowa OCIO. According to the grant application prepared by the OCIO, the 2020 award will go to maintaining the OCIO's cybersecurity infrastructure including network vulnerability management, web proxy filtering, and malware protection software.

Strategically, it is important that government entities at all levels protect themselves against cybersecurity threats. Generally, it is difficult for smaller jurisdictions to afford those services or equipment, and the OCIO provides a centralization of some services to benefit political subdivisions. The City IT Department is continually evaluating whether the service delivery through the State provides the best protection or additional benefit for our cybersecurity. This approval of the 2020 grant pass-through by the City does not obligate the City to use the OCIO services.