


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	23-483	Meeting:	October 23, 2023
	Agenda Item:	49	Roll Call:	23-1447
	Submitted by:	Dana Wingert, Chief of Police		

AGENDA HEADING:

Recommend approval to accept the 2023 Homeland Security Grant Program awards on behalf of the statewide Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD/SWAT) in the amount of \$262,047 and the Explosive Ordnance Detection (EOD) teams in the amount of \$205,073. The City of Des Moines will serve as the financial agent for these grant awards.

SYNOPSIS:

The Police Department recommends acceptance of the 2023 Homeland Security Grant Program 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 assist the teams in their assessment of incidences in low light settings that is needed to sustain and expand the capabilities of these task forces to be prepared/response to critical incidences related to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive weapons.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: 2023 Homeland Security Grant: WMD/SWAT - \$262,047 and EOD - \$205,073

Funding Source: Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Adopted Operating Budget, 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 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: October 24, 2022

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

Action: [Acceptance](#) of 2022 Homeland Security EOD 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.

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