



# Bay Area UASI Annual Report FY 2019-2020





**Mission**

The Bay Area Urban Areas Security Initiative is a regional organization charged with managing the application for, and distribution of, homeland security grant funding. These funds assist our high-threat, high-density region in its mission to build, sustain, and deliver the capabilities necessary to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism and catastrophic events.

**Approach**

Annually, the region's subject matter experts meet to review all projects submitted for funding. Consistent with the DHS National Priority areas, gaps identified in the Bay Area Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) and Stakeholder Preparedness Review (SPR), and the state homeland security goals, projects are prioritized.

**Regional Work Groups**

The UASI's multi-disciplinary work groups are comprised of local, state, and federal subject matter experts working to achieve the National Preparedness Goal. Designed to enhance public safety and security throughout the Bay Area, these work groups conduct risk and capability assessments, support policy development and implementation, and share best practices across the region.



**General Manager's Letter**



As we are all busy responding to and recovering from the overwhelming Covid-19 pandemic, the Bay Area UASI continues advancing our region's goals and objectives, pursuing grant funding opportunities, and enhancing capabilities. This 2019-2020 Annual Report highlights our efforts to improve homeland security capabilities throughout the region.

In the past year, the Bay Area was fortunate to see both an increase in UASI grant funding and the addition of two new grants- the Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP) and the Securing the Cities (STC) Program.

The Bay Area UASI received a \$10 million increase, from \$27.5 million in FY 19 to 37.5 million in FY 20. Included in the FY20 grant guidelines, FEMA imposed a new requirement to equally allocate 20% of the grant award to address four National Priority Projects: Cybersecurity, Protecting Soft Targets, Emergent Threats, and Intelligence and Information Sharing.

In 2019, the competitive RCPGP program for the top 100 Metropolitan Statistical Areas in the U.S. was again revived after 8 years. As a result of our region's previous planning efforts, our application sought funding for the development of 70 additional Commodity Points of Distribution site plans and was awarded \$1.4 million dollars.

In March 2020, we became one of six recipients of the Securing the Cities (STC) grant. The \$2 million dollars awarded by the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction (CWMD) office is designed to reduce the risk of a successful deployment of a radiological or nuclear weapon. In the first year of the grant, we are currently organizing the operational structure for the program area, covering 48 Northern California counties and Washoe County in Nevada.

The Management Team continues striving to provide jurisdictions with excellent service in the management of grant funds. The fiscal staff works closely with sub-recipient jurisdictions to ensure that they remain in compliance with grant requirements; our organization's most recent single audit had no findings.

As the region continues responding to and recovering from the scourge of the Covid-19 pandemic, we wish to thank our first responders and emergency management community who are fighting this epidemic on a daily basis.

Sincerely,  
Craig Dziedzic



## Enhancing Mass Notification Capabilities



### Bay Area Joint Information System

Since 2014, the Bay Area UASI has invested in a regional Joint Information System (JIS) to improve crisis communication capabilities. The Bay Area JIS members meet regularly to share messaging techniques, develop communication materials, and ensure the coordinated, timely, and accurate delivery of critical messages to the public.

The Covid-19 outbreak demonstrated the value of the Bay Area JIS. The essential functions, as defined in the JIS Framework and previously tested in regional exercises, have proven invaluable such as the role of local liaisons.

Dedicated Public Information Officers (PIOs) are coaching and sharing easily revisable content with smaller jurisdictions. Since March 2020, the Bay Area JIS has been conducting daily check-in calls to share information and coordinate resources for public messaging across the Bay Area.

The Bay Area JIS continues to focus on the following efforts:

- **Developing Recovery Communications.**
- **Sustaining administrative functions through the Bay Area JIS Leadership Committee.**
- **Integrating new members**



### Alert and Warning

During an emergency event, effective communication with the public is invaluable. To determine challenges and examine possible resources, the Bay Area successfully played host to the second annual Mass Notification Seminar in May 2019.

In attendance were almost 200 representatives from across the Bay Area as well as New York City, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., colleges and universities, and state and federal government agencies.

The Seminar's 2 day objectives included:

- **Sharing mass notification lessons learned from disasters that occurred in all parts of the US.**
- **Creating a deeper understanding of communications infrastructure and capabilities related to mass notification.**
- **Developing policies and regulations related to mass notification.**
- **Identifying best practices for designing and sending effective alert messages to reach the broadest possible audience.**

Word of the seminar was so positive that #BAMNS19 was trending on Twitter. Unfortunately, the 2020 Mass Notification Seminar was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Enhancing Catastrophic Incident Management Capabilities

### Regional Catastrophic Grant Preparedness Program

In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, the RCPGP was created to build regional capacity for a catastrophic incident. During a five year period, the Bay Area UASI was awarded over \$14 million dollars and successfully created a number of regional plans including debris management, mass evacuation, mass fatality, and mass care and sheltering.

After the grant program ended, UASI continued funding community resilience projects such as the regional Commodity Points of Distribution (C-POD) project. In 2019, when the competitive RCPGP program was again revived, the Bay Area UASI was awarded \$1.4 million dollars to continue developing C-POD capabilities.

Recently, Bay Area jurisdictions utilized capabilities developed through the C-POD project to conduct drive-through testing and food distribution during the Covid-19 outbreak.

In the next three years, the Emergency Management Work Group will continue building the following capabilities:

- **Developing 70 additional C-POD site plans.**
- **Creating 14+ MOUs for C-POD site operations.**
- **Conducting C-POD and EOC Logistics training for the region.**
- **Designing and conducting C-POD exercises to test capabilities.**
- **Providing resource request data to Cal OES and FEMA to assist with support efforts.**



# Supporting an Expanded Training & Exercise Program



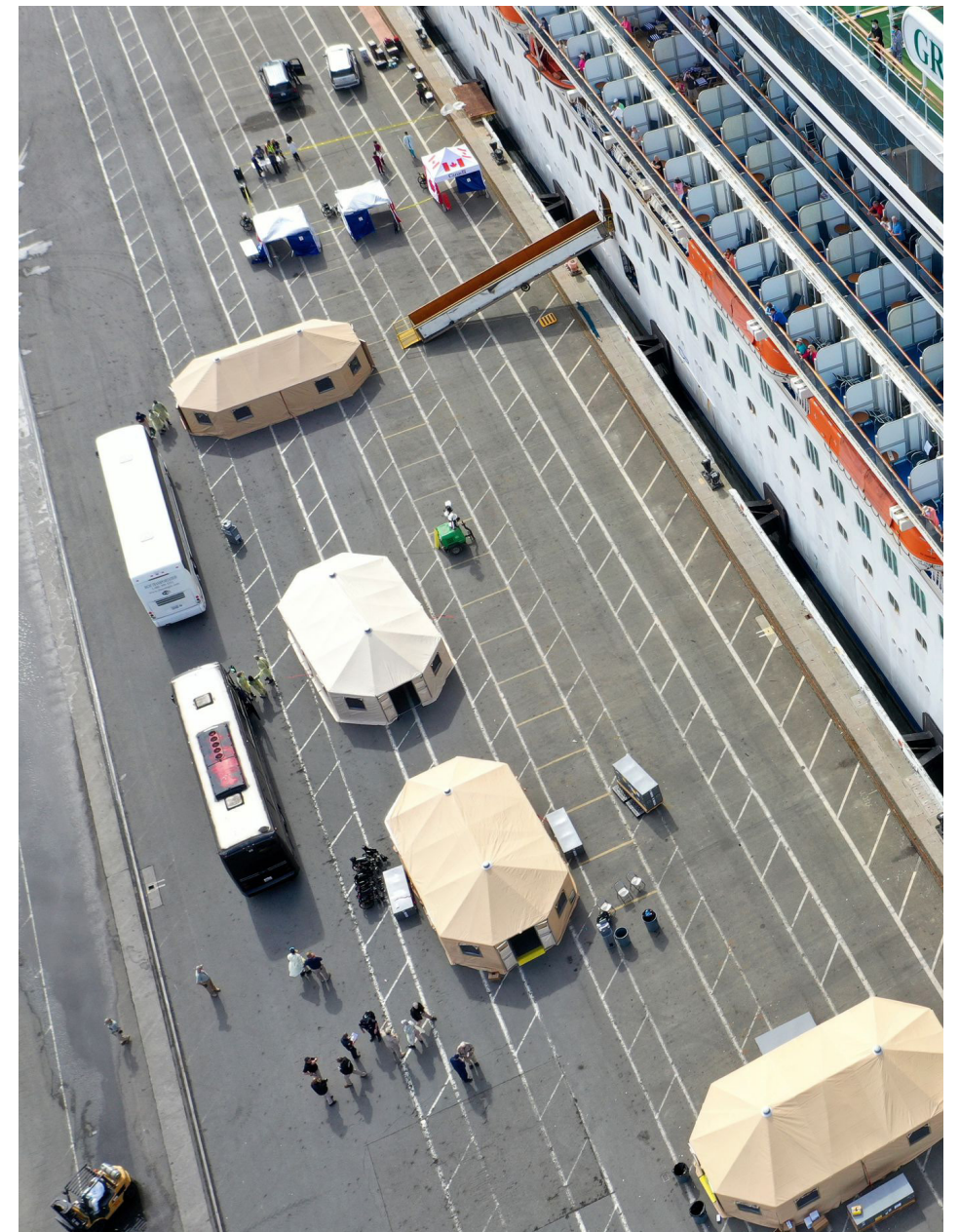
## Bay Area Regional Training & Exercise Program

The Bay Area UASI's recently expanded Training & Exercise Program (TEP) combines traditional first responder training and exercise elements with new and exciting initiatives like community preparedness – designed to include our Whole Community partners.

Led by the UASI Management Team and supported by SenseMakers, LLC., the addition of the San Francisco Community Agencies Responding to Disaster (SFCARD) ensures broad involvement by our community preparedness partners (e.g. Collaborating Agencies' Disaster Relief Effort (CADRE), Alameda Volunteer Agencies Active in Disaster (VOAD), Center for Volunteer Nonprofit Leadership (CVNL), and others).

SFCARD leads monthly meetings to discuss training and exercise needs, share information about Bay Area TEP activities, provides a platform for ongoing stakeholder feedback and acts as the liaison to the Training and Exercise Work Group. This process provides for the broadest possible participation by first responders and the whole community.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, any training classes conducted have been virtual. The Training and Exercise Work Group has prepared a three-year Integrated Preparedness Plan and is poised to resume in person classes as allowed by public health orders. Planning for the regional "Golden Eagle" exercise will continue in 2021.



## Information Sharing Program Supporting the Region



### Northern California Regional Intelligence Center (NCRIC)

The Northern California Regional Intelligence Center (NCRIC) connects our regional partners to each other and the nation through training, technology, and the active participation of more than 14,000 members. Their mission is to protect life, critical infrastructure, key resources, privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties through information sharing, analysis, criminal intelligence and technology.

This year, the NCRIC increased capabilities in Digital Forensics, Public Outreach, Analyses, and Cybersecurity:

- **Reviewed digital data stored on computers and other portable electronic devices to arrest and convict those engaging in criminal acts. Increased the number of cases reviewed from 630 to 1051.**
- **Developed and presented quarterly webinars to the private sector across the National Network of Fusion Centers (NNFC). Increased regional participation from 1264 to 1567.**
- **Increased Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) analysis by 30%, from 929 to 1217.**
- **Supported increased cyber reporting and analysis SARs from 52 to 77. Doubled Cyber presentations in the Bay Area from 20 to 41.**

## Building Cybersecurity in the Bay Area

### Cybersecurity Work Group

Working collaboratively with the NCRIC, the Cybersecurity Work Group coordinates with Chief Information Officers, Chief Technology Officers, Chief Information Security Officers, and Information Systems Managers from each of the UASI jurisdictions to build regional capabilities in the detection of malicious cyber activity. By sharing best practices to increase cyber resilience and conducting technical counter-measures against existing and emerging cyber-based threats, victims of cyberattacks can more quickly recover.

Projects planned for the coming year include:

- **Develop a cyber "navigator" program to increase regional elections security.**
- **Develop guidance for hardening elections networks, databases, and servers against interference.**
- **Conduct training for elections staff, including: webinars and trainings on common vulnerabilities such as phishing attacks.**
- **Prepare and disseminate easily updateable state and federal partner contact information to all elections officials.**



# Addressing Radiological/Nuclear Threats



## Securing the Cities (STC) Program

To continue ongoing efforts to detect and protect against radiological and nuclear (R/N) threats and the potentially malicious use of these R/N materials, the Securing the Cities pilot program was first developed in New York. Subsequently, this successful program received funding to expand into other US cities.

Recognizing the same risks in Northern California, the Bay Area UASI formed the Preventive Rad/Nuc Detection (PRND) working group for the 12 Bay Area Counties. This working group successfully developed a Concept of Operations, a regional strategy, and created lists of standardized equipment. In 2019, the Bay Area received the first year of STC funding in the amount of \$2 million dollars with the anticipation of additional funding over the next 9 years. New grant requirements, however, increased the Area of Responsibility (AOR) of this grant from the 12 Bay Area Counties to 48 Counties in Northern California as well as Washoe County in Nevada.



In year one of the grant, the Bay Area UASI Management Team, in conjunction with principal partner agencies from around the region, will coordinate with the PRND Working Group, the CWMD Office and FBI Stabilization Team 5, to meet the following goals:



- **Conduct a webinar to introduce the program to all members.**
- **Expand the regional Strategic Plan to include all 48 CA counties and Washoe County.**
- **Draft Committee Charters.**
- **Create Regional Implementation and Operations Plans.**
- **Develop a Multi Year Training & Exercise Plan in conjunction with the Bay Area TEP.**



# UASI Governance and Finance

## Approval Authority

An eleven-member Approval Authority directs the Bay Area UASI through a multi-year master agreement. This Brown-Acted body includes representation from each of the three major cities (San Francisco, Oakland, and San José) and the twelve counties located within the Bay Area UASI footprint. This group provides policy direction and is responsible for final decisions regarding projects and funding.

## Management Team

Under the direction of the General Manager, the Bay Area UASI Management Team administers grant funds and implements the policies of the Approval Authority. The Team is comprised of program managers and grant specialists and serves as the liaison between the City and County of San Francisco (the Bay Area UASI fiscal agent), the Department of Homeland Security, the State of California, and local government grant sub-recipients.

## Approval Authority Members

**Mary Ellen Carroll (Chair)**  
Executive Director  
City & County of San Francisco  
Dept. of Emergency Management

**Richard T. Lucia (Vice Chair)**  
Undersheriff  
Alameda County Sheriff's Office

**Mark Robbins**  
Undersheriff  
San Mateo County Sheriff's Office

**Raymond Riordan**  
Director Office of Emergency Mgmt.  
City of San José

**Mike Casten**  
Undersheriff  
Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office

**Gerry Malais**  
Emergency Services Manager  
Monterey County  
Office of Emergency Services  
Represents Santa Cruz & San Benito

**Robert Doyle**  
Sheriff  
Marin County Sheriff's Office

**Jessica Feil**  
Emergency Services Manager  
Oakland Fire Department Office of  
Emergency Services

**Michael Cochran**  
Deputy Chief of Administration  
San Francisco Fire Department

**Dana Reed**  
Director  
Santa Clara County Office of  
Emergency Services

**Christopher Godley**  
Emergency Manager  
Sonoma County  
Office of Emergency Services  
Represents Napa & Solano

UASI Fiscal FY18 Allocations

