



To: Bay Area UASI Approval Authority
From: Craig Dziedzic, General Manager
Date: November 8, 2018
Re: Item 4: Regional Training/Exercise Program

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approving the Bay Area UASI training/exercise program as an overall comprehensive regional program that precludes bifurcating one component from another.

Staff also recommends considering a reallocation of grant funds for the regional training and exercise program if the Alameda County Board of Supervisors does not approve the MOU by March 2019 due to Cal OES grant requirements (see below).

Action or Discussion Items:

- (a) The Bay Area UASI Training/Exercise Program is a comprehensive regional program that precludes bifurcating one component from another (Discussion and Possible action).
- (b) If the Alameda County Board of Supervisors does not approve the MOU by March 2019 the Approval Authority should consider reallocating funding for the regional training and exercise program due to Cal OES grant requirements. (Discussion and Possible action).

Background:

At the January 11, 2018 Approval Authority meeting, \$4,901,339 was approved from the FY 18 UASI grant to fund the Regional Training and Exercise Program that is managed by the Alameda County Sheriff's Office. The funding supports training, exercise, planning, and program support, including Urban Shield 2019. In order for the Alameda County Sheriff's Office to incur expenditures for the Training and Exercise Program, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors needs to accept/approve the MOU between Alameda County and the Bay Area UASI.

In January 2017, the Alameda County Sheriff's Office and the Alameda Board of Supervisors adopted guidelines for the Urban Shield Exercise. In March 2018, upon acceptance of UASI FY 2017 funds, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors resolved that it was the last time Urban Shield as "currently constituted" would be approved by that Board; and in fact; an ad hoc committee was formed to provide recommendations to the Board. Since October 2018, the ad hoc

committee has scheduled meetings through December 2018. The Alameda County Board of Supervisors will not approve the UASI 2018 MOU until the ad hoc committee recommendations are received and approved.

Because of grant guidelines and performance period requirements, a failure by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors to approve the MOU in a timely manner puts the region's use of grant funds at risk. Previously, due to the County's delay in approving the FY 2017 MOU, regional courses which were scheduled to begin in November 2017 were postponed until May 2018- a five month delay. For UASI FY 2018, the performance period ends on 12/31/19. If the Alameda County Board of Supervisors does not approve the MOU by March 2019 the County may be considered a risk for failing to demonstrate the ability to perform and spend the grant funds in a timely manner pursuant to Cal OES grant requirement (see below).

FEMA Grant Requirement

As a component of FEMA's National Preparedness System, training/exercises are conducted to test and validate plans and capabilities. "An effective and comprehensive exercise program ... is essential to the success of the National Preparedness System".¹ The related costs are allowed under the UASI grant guidance.² It is required that all UASI grant recipients develop a multi-year Training and Exercise Plan (TEP) that identifies training and exercises priorities and activities.³

Bay Area UASI Training/Exercise program

On April 22, 2011, the Approval Authority agreed to have the Alameda County Sheriff's Office be the Bay Area's Training and Exercise program manager and provider for FY 2010 and 2011. On July 15, 2011, the MOU between the Bay Area UASI and Alameda County was signed by all parties and put into effect. The regional exercise follows the planning, training, exercise, and improvement plan cycle pursuant to FEMA's National Preparedness System.

Since 2011, the regional training and exercise program has progressively matured to provide more than 151 courses to the region and has had more than 26,000 participants registered in the program. The Urban Shield exercise has also expanded to include Yellow Command (EOC exercise), Grey Command (community disaster fair), and Green Command (CERT exercise).

¹ National Preparedness System, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, November 2011, p 5.

² Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, FY 2018 Homeland Security Grant Program, p.19.

³ Ibid P.46.

CAL OES Grant Requirement

Under Cal OES Supplemental Grant guidance, Cal OES may suspend or terminate grant funding, in whole or in part...for failure to expend funds in a timely manner consistent with grant milestones, guidance, and assurances...[and/or] failure to make satisfactory progress toward the goals or objectives set forth in the Subrecipient application.⁴

⁴ Cal OES Fiscal Year 2018 Homeland Security Grant Program, California Supplement to the Federal Notice of Funding Opportunity, Sept. 2018., Pp24-25.