

Bay Area UASI



Bay Area Urban Areas Security Initiative Quarterly Newsletter

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2018 Homeland Security Conference



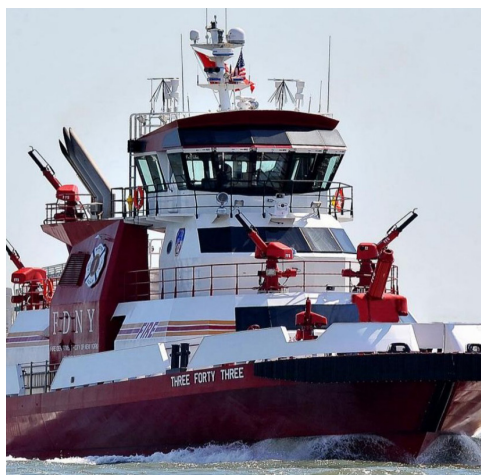
In the heart of the 9/11 Memorial, over 1,500 attendees witnessed the opening ceremonies of the annual National Homeland Security Conference. Bringing together a variety of homeland security professionals, the conference

offers innovative and informative sessions covering topics in law enforcement, fire service, emergency management, counter-terrorism, grant management, and many others.

Keynote speakers for this year included first responders from the Las Vegas shooting and Austin package bombing, Chief Information Security Officer from the NYC Cyber Command, and FEMA Grant Programs Executive Officer Mark Silveira.

Several members of the Bay Area UASI Management Team also took part in discussion panels. In one session, Chief Financial Officer Tristan Levardo, Regional Grants Manager Mary Landers, and Systems Administrator Ethan Baker teamed with representatives from the New York and Houston UASIs to present on Streamlining Grant Management. They each shared their approach to managing large and complex grants.

Regional Communications and Technology Project Manager Corey Reynolds joined the City of Walnut Creek's Communications & Outreach Manager Betsy Burkhardt to discuss public warning and joint information systems. Corey highlighted a wide range of readily available communications tools and their specific usage based on the threat's severity. Betsy presented lessons learned from the 2017 North Bay Fires and described best practices for strengthening joint information systems. Together, they demonstrated regional capability building efforts of the Bay Area Public Information and Warning Workgroup.



SF Department of Emergency Management Lead Exercise Coordinator Jill Raycroft presented with former FEMA Region IX official Randy Brawley (now a consultant). Together, Jill and Randy outlined the gamification of exercises and its broad applications to emergency management.

Attendees also had many opportunities to use the NYC subway system as they took tours, viewed equipment, and observed security measures designed to keep the citizens safe. Highlights of the week included witnessing an active shooter drill at Carnegie Hall, presentations at Emergency Management facilities, tours of New York Harbor on the FDNY fireboat, "The 343", and a visit to One Police Plaza, home of the NYPD.

Bay Area UASI Updates



THIRA Update

In 2018, FEMA worked with jurisdictional partners to develop an updated capability assessment methodology called the Stakeholder Preparedness Review (SPR). It replaces the previous version of the assessment, the State Preparedness Report, expanding standardized reporting requirements to include UASI and Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program grantees. This self-assessment allows jurisdictions to use targets from the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) to identify current capabilities and how those capabilities changed over the last year.



Stakeholders can expect the new THIRA process to add consistency to reporting requirements across Tribes, UASIs, and States. It will also help to identify our capacity to meet THIRA capability targets and then plan for how to close gaps or sustain the capability. SPR requirements are effective immediately and due by Dec. 31, 2018.

FirstNET at Pride Parade

On June 24, over 100,000 spectators gathered in San Francisco to attend the 48th annual Pride celebration. During the event, staff from the SF Dept. of Emergency Management, the SF Dept. of Technology, and the Bay Area UASI conducted an exploratory test of broadband services within a congested network service area. A full range of capabilities on the AT&T and Verizon commercial networks, FirstNet, and Verizon's priority service, were tested. The data from this test will be analyzed and shared to support decision-making for broadband services for first responder application and communication needs.



Mass Care and Shelter Update

The UASI Care and Shelter Subcommittee is looking forward to a strong finish as they approach the end of their two-year Regional Care and Shelter Capability Building project. The subcommittee has developed various products to improve shelter capabilities, including a resource gap identification tool, local plan evaluations and guidance, a regional best practices report, and a regional strategy report.

The subcommittee will also continue developing essential resources such as the Memorandum of Understanding toolkit, a public information community outreach toolkit, and a review of animal sheltering plans. As the project nears completion, regional stakeholders will prepare for a full-scale exercise of simultaneously activated shelters and Emergency Operations Centers throughout the Bay Area.



Over 75 attendees turned out for the Medical Needs in Shelters Workshop

Bay Area UASI Supports NEMAA

Recently, the Bay Area UASI Training and Exercise program hosted FEMA's National Emergency Management Advanced Academy (NEMAA) program in Alameda County. 50 local, state, and federal public safety professionals from around Northern California participated in four weeks of rigorous training, focusing on case studies and the qualities needed to lead emergency management programs. Participants also learned skills critical to performing emergency management responsibilities, including program management and oversight, critical thinking, and integrated collaboration. Project Manager Amy Ramirez said, "This was a great opportunity to build leadership skills and work with a diverse group of emergency management professionals".

Following the completion of the program, Cal OES presented the Bay Area UASI with a Certificate of Appreciation for its outstanding commitment to facilitating and supporting the NEMAA program.

Bay Area UASI Updates



Urban Shield 2018

Now in its 12th year, the annual Urban Shield Full Scale Exercise has provided world class training opportunities for first responders and emergency managers throughout the Bay Area. Driven by real world events, challenging scenarios have been developed to provide multidisciplinary teams an opportunity to enhance their skills and abilities. For the second year in a row, Green Command will bring together over 120 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) participants from 10 Bay Area counties. These CERT teams will train in search and rescue, disaster medical triage, and donations management. Yellow Command will also return with the activation of 12 Operational Area EOCs and numerous city and special district EOCs. Across the region, more than 20 full-scale shelters will activate and operate during the exercise. Additionally, this year's Red Command will feature an aircraft emergency water landing scenario inspired by 2009's "Miracle on the Hudson" aviation incident. For more information on Urban Shield, please visit www.urbanshield.org.

Mass Notification Workshop

On March 14, the Bay Area UASI Public Information and Warning Workgroup kicked off their first ever Mass Notification Seminar in Campbell, CA. This two-day workshop attracted over 100 public safety and communications specialists from all over the country. Attendees were given the opportunity to share their stories, discuss the information technology infrastructure and capabilities related to mass notification, and identify best practices for designing effective alert messaging. A second Mass Notification Seminar is tentatively scheduled for 2019.

UASI Regional Training & Exercise Program

To learn more about the program or to register for available courses visit: www.bauasitep.org.

Upcoming Courses

- 08/10: Unified Response to School/Community Violence II
- 08/14: Critical Incident Response for Field Officers
- 09/24: Critical Incident Response for the Supervisor/Manager

Golden State Warriors Parade

For the third time in four years, the Bay Area's Golden State Warriors were victorious in the NBA Finals. On a scorching June day, over 1 million fans attended a victory parade and rally in downtown Oakland. To keep parade attendees safe, the Oakland Police Department coordinated their response with 10 local mutual aid law enforcement agencies as well as the FBI, DHS, and the US Marshals Service. With such a large event, the Oakland Fire Department also relied on the Hayward Fire Department to assist them in responding to medical emergencies, which were limited to heat related calls. The coordinated efforts, spearheaded by the city of Oakland's Department of Emergency Services, led to a safe and exhilarating victory celebration.



Compliance Corner & Management Team

FY19 UASI Proposal Process

On September 21st, the Bay Area UASI application period for FY 19 UASI grant funds will be opened. All local government entities that wish to apply must attend the September 20 kickoff meeting in Dublin, CA or view our online webinar to learn about specific eligibility requirements for the upcoming fiscal year. In order to begin the process, prospective applicants who have not previously participated in the grant application process must register and submit their contact information to the grants management system at www.bayareauasigrants.org.

Compliance Corner:

Staying on Schedule

Every year, the UASI Fiscal Team conducts approximately 15-20 sub-recipient monitoring visits across the region. Their mission is to have an in-person meeting to review documents, inspect equipment, and discuss overall grant progress. Following the monitoring visit, the team issues a report with recommendations designed to highlight any areas of concern that may pose troublesome during an official audit by the state or federal governments. Although fewer recommendations issued in FY2018 indicate an overall improvement from previous years, one common issue persists- completing the grant process in a timely manner. To encourage sub-recipients to remain on schedule, the Fiscal Team has developed the following recommendations:

- Submit reimbursement requests within three months after processing vendor payments
- Review project milestone dates stated in the MOU to ensure timely project completion
- Develop a staffing plan to enhance continuity of workflow specific to the claims process

The UASI Management Team is here to help! We understand that you may be wearing many hats in your office and that these grants can be challenging. We are always available to answer questions and support you throughout the grant year. By working together, we hope for a smooth and painless process.



Upcoming Events

AUGUST

- 08/09: Approval Authority Meeting
- 08/22: Medical Needs Workshop #3

SEPTEMBER

- 09/06-10: Urban Shield Week
- 09/20: FY19 Project Proposal Kickoff Meeting
- 09/24-27: CESA Conference

OCTOBER

- 10/12: FY19 Project Proposal Deadline

Approval Authority Updates

The following people have been appointed as new members of the Approval Authority: Sonoma County UASI Program Manager Brendan Kearney, San Mateo County Undersheriff Mark Robbins, Oakland Emergency Services Manager Toshia Shavies Marshall, Oakland Asst. Emergency Services Manager Mitchell Green, Contra Costa County Asst. Sheriff Chris Simmons, and Santa Clara County OES Deputy Director David Flamm.

Management Team Updates

Grants Accountant Analyn Tam is our newest member of the UASI fiscal team. California National Guard Homeland Response Force Liaison Officer Anastasiya Maynich also joined the UASI team and will be assisting PRND Project Manager Phil White. This summer, UASI welcomes Willie Luo as our Project Pull intern. Welcome Willie!