

Bay Area UASI



Bay Area Urban Areas Security Initiative Quarterly Newsletter

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Regional Catastrophic Planning Efforts Continue in the Bay Area

On July 4th and 5th, the Bay Area was once again reminded that California is earthquake country. In the town of Ridgecrest, a remote part of San Bernardino County, three major shocks of magnitudes 6.4, 5.4 and 7.1 occurred. Although felt in wide swaths of California, Arizona, and Nevada, no lives were lost; but estimated damage costs are approximately \$100 million. As we continue to await the next “big one”, the Bay Area is taking steps to prepare by developing plans, conducting training, and using exercises to identify and close gaps.

The regional Access and Functional Needs (AFN) project, conducted through the Emergency Management Work Group, is working to increase regional capacity to serve people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs during a disaster. The project is providing guidance to the three core cities of Oakland, San Francisco, and San Jose to ensure they meet requirements mandated in AB 2311 (the state bill requiring each county to integrate access and functional needs into its emergency plan when the plan is next updated). Additionally, the project is developing tools and guidance for AFN planning throughout the region.

A large component of disaster planning centers around shelter operations. To that end, a train-the-trainer course on inclusive sheltering practices was conducted on July 29. The purpose of the workshop was to build skills and knowledge for experienced shelter workers and teach them to prepare others on inclusive sheltering practices. The goal is to ensure that all shelter residents

have greater access to the full range of support and services during a disaster. Participants received tools to enable them to conduct this training in their communities, building regional capacity to practice inclusive sheltering. This hands-on workshop builds upon information and skills learned in Red Cross Sheltering classes and general

disability awareness courses such as FEMA G197.

Regional exercises also play an important role in closing gaps and building capacity. On September 5, our annual regional coordination exercise will be conducted. This year, key transit partners will join emergency managers, medical and public health personnel, and PIOs to consider populations with access and functional needs, families evacuating with animals, and the coordination of those requiring medical services in a disaster.





CBRNE Program Update

To further enhance local first responder capabilities in detecting and identifying chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive (CBRNE) weapons or sources, a regional work group of CBRNE experts meets to share best practices and conduct after action reviews of real world incidents in the area. Led by Project Manager Phil White, standardized equipment needs were determined and the UASI recently funded a regional procurement of portable and handheld detection equipment. This equipment includes primary and secondary screening devices that can detect trace elements that pose a threat to public safety.



In an incident that occurred on July 1st, specialized screening equipment at the Facebook mail processing facility detected possible contamination by the highly toxic chemical warfare agent Sarin in a box it had received. The building and its occupants were immediately evacuated, 9-1-1 was called and the FBI was notified. Using experience gained from hosting a similar CBRNE scenario in Urban Shield 2012, the Belmont Fire Hazmat Unit took the lead in this incident.



Fortunately, after multiple tests were conducted by local, state and federal first responders, the alarm was determined to be a “false positive”. The Bay Area CBRNE Program trainings, exercises and networking built with regional, state and federal

agencies supported the prompt and efficient response to this incident.

National Homeland Security Conference



The annual National Homeland Security Conference was held in Phoenix, Arizona from June 17-21, 2019 with the Bay Area UASI sending twelve representatives. The Management Team participated on three panel presentations; and our “Mitigating Risks During Wildfires” presentation with additional representation from San Francisco Fire, BayRICS, and Napa OES was selected “Best of Show”. The 2020 National Homeland Security Conference is scheduled for Chicago (June 29 – July 3). Subsequently, the conference will be in Las Vegas (2021) and Cleveland (2022).



FEMA

Regional Catastrophic Grant Program Opportunity

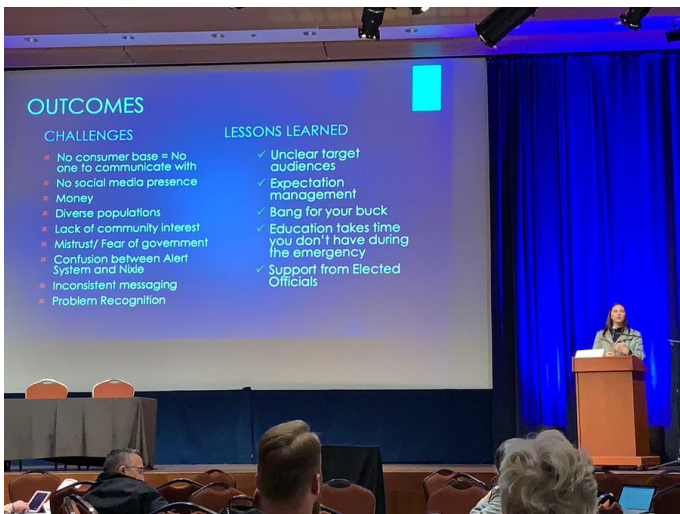
Recognizing the importance of planning for a major disaster event, Congress reinstated the Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program. The Department of Homeland Security issued the Notice of Funding Opportunity in late May and the Bay Area UASI submitted an application. The guidelines provided only two project options with a maximum award amount of \$1.5 million. The UASI application seeks to improve logistics and supply chain management by increasing the number of planned Community Points of Distribution sites from 30 to 100. During a catastrophic disaster, the public will be directed to these sites to obtain supplies and services including food, water, and temporary shelter equipment. This advanced planning will allow for streamlined operations at the sites by having pre-determined setup guidelines and equipment needs. The Bay Area UASI will provide an update to the Approval Authority on the status of their grant application when it is announced.

Bay Area UASI Updates



Mass Notification Seminar 2019

On May 2nd and 3rd, the Bay Area's Public Information and Warning Workgroup hosted the second annual Mass Notification Seminar in San Francisco. This two-day workshop, one of the only events in the U.S. to focus exclusively on all aspects of mass notification,



Emergency Services Planner Kelsey Scanlon shared her experiences with brand building for Monterey County's mass notification system.

attracted 198 public safety and communications specialists from across the country. One of the key objectives of the event was sharing mass notification lessons learned from disasters in the Bay Area, State of California, and across the country. The seminar also provided participants with a deeper understanding of communications infrastructure and capabilities related to mass notification. The third annual Mass Notification Seminar is scheduled for spring 2020. For more information, see the summary report at www.bayareauasi.org/massnotificationseminar

UASI Regional Training & Exercise Program

On June 30, 2019, the Alameda County Sheriff's Office ceased operating the Regional Training & Exercise Program. Moving forward, the intent is to continue the program which provides critical training to first responders throughout the Bay Area. A Request for Proposals (RFP) has been issued to find a new agency or private organization to administer the program. Prospective applicants are encouraged to apply.

For more information please visit:

www.bayareauasi.org/programs/training



Cyber Critical Infrastructure Workshop

On July 16, Cyber Resilience Project Manager Mikyung Kim-Molina and members of the regional workgroup participated in "Jack Voltaic 2.5", part of a one-day critical infrastructure security and community resilience Workshop Series designed to engage those who have critical infrastructure responsibilities. Owners of high priority Department of Defense (DoD) critical infrastructure as well as municipal leaders met to discuss key relationships between commercial critical infrastructure and DoD critical missions.

Based on the "Jack Voltaic 2.0" exercise, AECOM and the Army Cyber Institute, in conjunction with the Department of Homeland Security Cyber and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), met with leaders from around the Bay Area to discuss ways to refine requirements and develop strategies for improving community readiness in response to the emerging cyber threat environment.



Compliance Corner & Management Team

Approval Authority Updates

The following people have been appointed as new alternate members of the Approval Authority: San Francisco Department of Emergency Management Chief of Staff Adrienne Bechelli and San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Captain Scott Kirkpatrick.

Management Team Updates

Welcome to Lloyd Shand, our new Emergency Services Coordinator. Lloyd is a native New Yorker and a US Navy veteran with experience in providing outreach to various communities and emergency planning. Welcome also to our interns - Andrea Sembrana and Tiffany Zheng.

Compliance Corner:

The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) defines procurement rules that must be followed to avoid audit findings that may lead to the possible return of grant funds.



Recently, a jurisdiction asked to use a contract with multiple amendments. To determine the eligibility of this purchase, we used 2 CFR part 200 to review the request. Section 200.323(a) states, *"The non-Federal entity must perform a cost or price analysis in connection with every procurement action in excess of the Simplified Acquisition Threshold including contract modifications."* Simply put, each time a contract with a value over \$250,000 is negotiated, the jurisdiction must perform a cost or price analysis. This applies not only during the original contract negotiations, but during each successive amendment.

We asked for back up documentation to make a determination. There were 2 components used to see if this CFR applied: 1) was the cost over \$250,000? Since the contract exceeded \$250,000 it exceeded the simple acquisition threshold, so this section was pertinent; 2) were cost analyses performed each time the contract was amended? Although the jurisdiction HAD performed periodic cost analyses during the term of the contract, there was no record of a cost analysis performed at the time of the latest contract amendment. Therefore, we could not approve this purchase.

Jurisdictions are reminded that a cost analysis must be performed at the initial contract award and EACH time the contract is amended.

Upcoming Events

AUGUST

- 08/08: Approval Authority Meeting
- 08/29: Public Information & Warning Work Group

SEPTEMBER

- 09/05: Regional Critical Transportation Exercise
- 09/19: FY20 Project Proposal Kickoff Meeting

OCTOBER

- 10/11: FY20 Project Proposal Deadline

FY20 UASI Project Proposal Process

On September 19, 2019, the Bay Area UASI will host the FY20 Project Proposal Kickoff Meeting at the Alameda County Sheriff's Office OES meeting room. This meeting will present the rules and policies for submitting grant applications. The application period will be open from September 20-October 11, 2019.

One key change in this year's process is in regional projects. If you believe you have a regional project, plan to attend the appropriate subject matter work group to make a presentation in August. The workgroup will make the determination if it is truly a regional project. If it is determined that it is NOT regional, you will be required to submit it as a hub project.

For more information on the FY20 Project Proposal Process visit:

www.bayareauasi.org/proposals