

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 4, 2006
TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL
FROM: JAMES HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 
SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF AN URBAN AREAS SECURITY INITIATIVE
SUB-GRANT AWARD FOR CITY RADIO COVERAGE IN THE
TRANSIT TUNNELS.

ISSUE: Sub-grant from the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) to provide improved radio communications within the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) tunnels within the City of Alexandria.

RECOMMENDATIONS: That City Council:

- (1) Approve the sub-grant award of \$264,583, for which there is no required City match; and
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents.

DISCUSSION: The purpose of the sub-grant is to provide better communication access to first responders that currently do not have communications to the trunked radio system infrastructure underground within the WMATA tunnels in the City. Currently when an incident occurs in those areas, users are required to operate on a very limited number of conventional radio channels, severely constraining communication capacity. When this grant funded project is complete first responders will have full trunked radio system access which will substantially improve communications capacity within the WMATA tunnels.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

STAFF:

Charles Samarra, Chief of Police
Michele Evans, Deputy City Manager
Phil Antonucci, Commander, Technical Services Division
Amy Flenniken, Division Chief, Police Finance
Alfred Coleman, Budget Analyst, OMB
Dale Johnson, Radio Systems Manager