

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** JUNE 21, 2012

**TO:** THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** RASHAD M. YOUNG, CITY MANAGER *RMY*

**SUBJECT:** FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE CITY'S EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

**ISSUE:** City Council consideration of an application for grant funds in the amount of \$80,000 from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) on behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). These funds will facilitate the purchase of furniture needed for the City Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

**RECOMMENDATION:** That City Council:

- (1) Approve an application to VDEM for a State Homeland Security Grant in the amount of \$80,000 to purchase furniture for the EOC; and
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to execute all the necessary documents that may be required.

**BACKGROUND:** On May 7, 2012, VDEM announced the availability of funds from the FY 2012 State Homeland Security Grant Program to support Homeland Security efforts in local jurisdictions throughout the Commonwealth. Funds for the program are provided by the National Preparedness Directorate, U.S. Department of Homeland Security under the State Homeland Security Grant Program. Allowable expenditures include equipment, exercises and training. The application is due July 20, 2012. FEMA provides State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) funds to states. The Commonwealth then offers a portion of the total grant amount on a competitive basis to localities.

**DISCUSSION:** City Staff attended a briefing on the SHSGP Grant for our region on May 14, 2012. The SHSGP has been significantly changed and reduced this year due to Congressional action. Unlike other years, all categories of State Homeland Security

Grants have been combined into this one grant program. Applications are due to VDEM on July 20, 2012.

Successful receipt of grant funds would provide the City \$80,000 in funding for the purchase of furniture for the EOC, which will be located on the third floor of the Public Safety Center. The City has begun planning an EOC project as a part of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). This grant will be used to supplement the CIP.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The City is responsible for the normal administrative costs associated with this grant, including financial and reporting oversight provided by the Fire Department, as well as the Office of Management and Budget, and the Finance Department. There is no cash match requirement.

**STAFF:**

Adam K. Thiel, Fire Chief

Jeremy McPike, Director General Services

Mark Penn, Emergency Management Coordinator