


City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 15, 2010

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FOR EQUIPMENT ACQUISITION TO SUPPORT THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM

ISSUE: Grant application to the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) for materials and equipment to support the Northern Virginia Regional Hazardous Materials Team.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council:

- (1) Approve the submission of a grant application (due May 6, 2010) for an allocation of monies from VDEM totaling \$55,000; and
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to execute the necessary documents that may be required.

BACKGROUND: On April 6, 2010, VDEM announced the availability of monies from the FY 2009 State Homeland Security Grant Program to support Haz-Mat Teams in local jurisdictions throughout the Commonwealth. Funds for the Program are provided by the National Preparedness Directorate, U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Allowable expenditures include equipment and supplies, which will be purchased and provided to the Northern Virginia Hazardous Materials Team. Team members include Firefighters and Paramedics from the Alexandria Fire Department and the Arlington County Fire Department Hazardous Materials Teams.

These funds will assist the City and region to prepare for potential chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and etiological threats. The types of equipment and supplies to be selected and purchased are designated by VDEM, and spending priorities are determined by each regional hazmat team. These expenditures will help the Team enhance its response capability for a chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear event. This grant funding will be evenly shared between the two Fire Departments.

The joint Alexandria-Arlington Northern Virginia Regional Hazardous Materials Team (TEAM) is one of the thirteen Virginia State-sponsored teams. The Team was established to not only support Alexandria and Arlington but also the Northern Virginia Region and other areas of the Commonwealth, when assistance is needed. The City of Alexandria and the Fire Department have been designated by the state to manage the grant for the Team.

FISCAL IMPACT: This grant does not have a match requirement. City staff will be responsible for administering the grant. The City is also responsible for the normal administrative costs associated with this grant, including financial and reporting oversight provided by the Fire Department, as well as by the Office of Management and Budget and the Finance Department.

STAFF:

Adam K. Thiel, Fire Chief

Denise Pouget, Assistant Fire Chief

Russell Middleton, Assistant Fire Chief

John North, Special Operations Battalion Chief, Fire Department

James Lynch, Administrative Division Chief, Fire Department

Virginia Lester, Fiscal Officer, Fire Department