

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: NOVEMBER 1, 2010

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER *J*

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION (NCR), URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE (UASI) FOR CITY PLANNING FOR EMERGENCIES

ISSUE: City Council Consideration of Acceptance of Funding from The National Capital Region (NCR), Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) for City planning for emergencies

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council authorize the City to:

- 1) accept \$75,000 in funding through the Urban Area Security Initiative; and
- (2) execute all the necessary documents that may be required.

DISCUSSION: During the past several years, Alexandria has received grant funds from the UASI program for activities related to the Northern Virginia Emergency Response System (NVERS). In 2007, Alexandria received approximately \$144,000 to develop our response plans to Weapons of Mass Destruction incidents as well as to exercise those plans. In 2008, approximately \$42,000 was received to update equipment on our Mass Casualty Support Vehicle and develop comprehensive Standard Operating Procedures for the Hazardous Materials Response Team.

In 2008, the National Capital Region received \$59.8 million in UASI funding from the United States Department of Homeland Security for regional preparations to disasters, including terrorism. These funds were allocated by the NCR Chief Administrative Officers and the Senior Policy Group in July 2009. The investment-area justifications and project plans were developed by various Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) committees during December 2007 and January 2008. The investment justifications were sent to DHS as a grant application on behalf of the entire National Capital Region.

Alexandria was notified on September 24, by the Northern Virginia Regional Commission that it is eligible to receive \$75,000, to be made available over five months, to improve our response to incidents involving weapons of mass destruction. The Fire Department will be using these funds to further develop their Strategic Response System which utilizes the City's Geographic Analysis and Research Interface managed by the GIS Division of the Department of Planning and Zoning. Specifically, the funds will be used to purchase software and engage a consultant to assist in developing a system for real time analysis of response data to assist in managing the Fire Department resources necessary to respond to emergency incidents. This grant ends on March 30, 2011.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no match requirement for these grant funds. City staff will administer the grant.

ATTACHMENTS:
none

STAFF:
Adam K. Thiel, Fire Chief
Mark Penn, Emergency Management Coordinator