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COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
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Chief Executive Officer

Fesia A. Davenport

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

September 10, 2024

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

38 September 10, 2024

Edward Yen
EDWARD YEN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

**ACCEPT 2023 URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE GRANT FUNDS
(ALL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Board approval is requested to find the proposed actions do not constitute a project or are exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and accept the County of Los Angeles' (County) allocation of the 2023 Urban Area Security Initiative Grant (UASI) funds to enhance the capacity of State and local agencies to respond to incidents of terrorism as well as natural disasters. The enhancements are provided through coordinated trainings, exercises, equipment acquisition, and technical assistance.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find that the County activities to be funded with the 2023 UASI funds from the Federal Department of Homeland Security (DHS) as distributed through the Los Angeles/Long Beach Urban Area (LA/LBUA) do not constitute projects under CEQA or, in the alternative, are exempt from CEQA for the reasons stated in this letter and in the record of the proposed activities;
2. Accept \$17,020,589 in 2023 UASI Grant funds under Assistance Listing Number 97.067 from DHS as distributed through the LA/LBUA with a Performance Period of September 1, 2023 to May 31, 2026, and approve the allocation of such funds as set forth in the Attachment hereto;
3. Authorize the County's Purchasing Agent to proceed with the solicitation and purchase of capital assets which are in excess of \$250,000 with two weeks advance notice to the Board of Supervisors (Board); and

4. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer, or her designee, to approve and execute the UASI subrecipient agreement with the City of Los Angeles and all future amendments, modifications, extensions, and augmentations as necessary.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

DHS has released UASI Grant funds to selected jurisdictions, including the LA/LBUA which is administered by the City of Los Angeles. The LA/LBUA, which includes the County, the Cities of Los Angeles and Long Beach, and thirteen other participating jurisdictions, received a 2023 UASI Grant award totaling \$53,932,030. The County's allocation of the 2023 UASI Grant award is \$17,020,589 and is detailed in the Attachment.

These UASI Grant funds are proposed for allocation to address the unique equipment, training, planning, and exercise needs of large urban areas associated with addressing threats or acts of terrorism.

Approval of the recommended actions will find the County activities proposed to be funded through the 2023 UASI Grant are not projects or, in the alternative, are exempt under CEQA; accept the Grant funds and approve the allocation thereof; authorize the County's Purchasing Agent to proceed with the capital asset purchases in excess of \$250,000 with two weeks advance notice to the Board, and delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to execute the appropriate documents.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions support the County's Strategic Plan North Star 2 – Foster Vibrant and Resilient Communities.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The UASI Grant is fully funded by DHS through the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). There is no matching fund requirement or impact on net County cost.

The following County departments will receive funding for the proposed specific projects as detailed in the Attachment: Chief Executive Office – Office of Emergency Management (\$843,589), Fire (\$5,567,861), Health Services (\$500,000), Public Health (\$120,754), and Sheriff (\$9,988,385). The funding needed for Fiscal Year 2024-25 will be requested during the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Supplemental Budget Phase.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Cal OES has provided the County Operational Area with specific guidelines for the administration, management, and utilization of the UASI Grant. These guidelines detail all activities and expenditures that are eligible for reimbursement.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed County activities to be funded as identified in the Attachment do not constitute projects pursuant to CEQA because they are excluded from the definition of a project by Public Resources Code Section 21065 and Section 15378(b)(2)(4) and (5) of the State CEQA Guidelines on the basis

that they are continuing administrative or organizational activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment and/or include the creation of a government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities; which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment. In the alternative, the proposed County activities to be funded are categorically exempt from CEQA since they are within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that they meet the criteria set forth in Section 15301(a) and (d) and 15322(a) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 1(c) and (r) and 22(a) and (c) of the County's Environmental Documentation and Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G which apply to building leases, and educational or training programs. The County activities to be funded will result in negligible or no expansion of use. In addition, based on the records of the proposed exempt activities, the exempt County activities will comply with all applicable regulations, are not located in a sensitive environment and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, damage to scenic highways, listing on hazardous waste site lists compiled, pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5, or indications that the activities may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource that would make the exemptions inapplicable.

Each subrecipient is required to comply with CEQA, as applicable, to be reimbursed with grant funds. To the extent there are any changes proposed to the activities to be funded by the County retained funds, the proposed activities will be reviewed for any further findings which may be necessary under CEQA. Chief Executive Office staff will continue to assist the lead federal granting agency, as necessary, to complete its requirement under the National Environmental Policy Act.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

The UASI subrecipient agreement with the City will be entered into and administered by the Chief Executive Officer under delegated authority as approved by the Board. Prior to execution, the agreement will be reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel.

The acquisition of capital asset equipment costing over \$250,000, as identified in the Attachment, is under the statutory authority of the County's Purchasing Agent and will be requisitioned, solicited, and purchased in accordance with County Purchasing Policies and Procedures.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

This UASI Grant provides funding to the County for planning, equipment, training, and program management and administration for emergency prevention, preparedness, and response personnel. The UASI Grant will have a positive impact on current services by improving and enhancing the County's ability to mitigate threats and incidents of terrorism.

CONCLUSION

Upon execution by the Board, please send a copy of the adopted Board letter to the Chief Executive Office - Homeland Security Grants Administration for processing.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

9/10/2024

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Respectfully submitted,



FESIA A. DAVENPORT

Chief Executive Officer

FAD:JMN:AC

AN:CH:KD

Enclosures

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Sheriff
Fire
Health Services
Public Health

**2023 URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE
ALLOCATION TO COUNTY DEPARTMENTS**

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Chief Executive Office - Office of Emergency Management	LACo Operational Area - Cybersecurity Program - Exercise (Phase 2); LACo Operational Area - Cybersecurity Program - Planning (Phase 2); LACo Operational Area - Cybersecurity Program - Training (Phase 2); Community Preparedness Training	\$ 843,589
Fire	Joint Regional Intelligence (JRIC) Officers; CBRNE Equipment; Multi-mission All Hazard Apparatus; Hazardous Materials Equipment; Hazardous Materials Training; Maritime Equipment; Critical Infrastructure Key Resource (CIKR) Vehicle; Maritime Training; Fire Ground Survival (FGS) Equipment; Regional Training Centers Sustainment and Maintenance; Satellite Training Centers Sustainment and Maintenance; Regional Training Centers Sustainment and Maintenance; Satellite Training Centers Sustainment and Maintenance; Catastrophic Planning Equipment; Tactical (TEMS) Equipment; Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Equipment; Tactical (TEMS) Training; Community Emergency Response Team Equipment; Joint Hazard Assessment Team; Catastrophic Planning Training; Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Training; UAS EQ; UAS Staffing	\$ 5,567,861
Health Services	Space Lease for equipment storage	\$ 500,000
Public Health	Biowatch	\$ 120,754
Sheriff	Cobwebs Technologies Platform; CNC Live; Investigative Analysis Platform; Situational Awareness Vehicle; SCSAP; Bomb Suits; Over Water Survival Equipment; Commuter Rail Road Protection; Portable Barrier - Anti-Pedestrian & Anti-Vehicle; CBRNE Detection Equipment; Weapons of Mass Destruction Training for Sheriff's Department personnel; SCUBA Equipment; Aerial Surveillance Camera; Rapid egress/confined space/high angle rescue; Enhanced Active Shooter Strategies Training; DHS Training Opportunities Travel; DHS Training Opportunities; Regional Mobile Command Post Maintenance Upgrade; Rural Patient Care; Ballistic Protection Shields; Ballistic Protection PPE; Blowers; Breaching Equipment; Fire Fighting Equipment; Harness and rope safety; Off-grid Emergency Infrastructure Equipment; Support Trailers; Vessel Outboard Engines and Accessories - Critical Infrastructure Protection; Regional Mass Care Shelters Electrical Upgrades; Air Purifying Respirator CS/CN canister; Computer Technologies; EOD Robot Maintenance; Winter Weather Garments; X-Ray Generators; Response Vehicle Outfitting; Fusion Center - Analytical Database Platform; Fusion Center - Information Technology, Equipment, Maintenance, and software subscriptions; Fusion Center - Intelligence Analysts; Fusion Center - Training	\$ 9,988,385

TOTAL \$ 17,020,589