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**Chief Executive Office.**

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(213) 974-1101 ceo.lacounty.gov

**Chief Executive Officer**

Fesia A. Davenport

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

**ADOPTED**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

39 September 10, 2024

*Edward Yen*  
EDWARD YEN  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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

Dear Supervisors:

**ACCEPT 2023 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM GRANT FUNDS  
(ALL DISTRICTS)  
(3-VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

Board approval is requested to find the proposed actions are not a project or exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and accept the County of Los Angeles' (County) allocation of the 2023 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Grant funds to make the funds available to the appropriate County departments and cities. The SHSP Grant enhances the capacity of State and local agencies to respond to incidents of terrorism, particularly those involving chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive incidents, as well as natural disasters. The enhancements are provided through coordinated trainings, exercises, equipment acquisitions, and technical assistance.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:**

1. Find that the County activities to be funded with the 2023 SHSP Grant funds from the Federal Department of Homeland Security (DHS) 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 \$9,481,457 in DHS Grant funds under Assistance Listing Number 97.067 from the 2023 SHSP Grant as distributed through the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) with a Performance Period of September 1, 2023 to May 31, 2026, and the allocation of a portion of such funds to County Departments as set forth in the Attachment;
3. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer, or her designee, to enter into subrecipient

agreements with cities providing for use and re-allocation of these funds; and to execute all future amendments, modifications, extensions and augmentations relative to the subrecipient agreements, as necessary;

4. Approve the County activities to be funded with 2023 SHSP Grant funds; and

5. Authorize the County's Purchasing Agent to proceed with the solicitation and purchase of capital asset items in excess of \$250,000 with two weeks advance notice to the Board of Supervisors.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

DHS has released grant funding through Cal OES to enhance the capacity of the State and local agencies to respond to incidents of terrorism, particularly those involving chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive incidents, as well as natural disasters. The enhancements are provided through coordinated trainings, exercises, equipment acquisitions, and technical assistance.

The purpose of this letter is to find that the recommended County activities do not constitute projects or, in the alternative, are exempt under CEQA and that the Board of Supervisors (Board) has authorized the Chief Executive Officer to administer the SHSP Grant on behalf of the County Operational Area.

We are further requesting the Chief Executive Officer be granted delegated authority to enter into subrecipient agreements with the various cities receiving SHSP Grant funds. Following the signing of agreements, these funds will be distributed to cities and County departments approved by DHS and Cal OES on a cost reimbursement basis. These agreements will be in a form approved by County Counsel.

### **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**

This Grant is fully funded by DHS through Cal OES, and there is no matching fund requirement or impact on net County cost. Of the \$9,481,457 grant, \$3,280,473 will be retained by the County for various programs under the grant, including five percent identified for management and administration costs, and \$6,200,984 will be allocated to local jurisdictions for approved activities/programs.

The funding for the impacted County departments will be distributed as follows:

Chief Executive Office (CEO) (\$1,073,070); Fire (\$635,000); Health Services [Emergency Medical Services] (\$200,000); Public Health (\$75,000); and the Sheriff (\$1,297,403). 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 management and administration of this grant. These guidelines detail the activities and expenditures that are allowable

under the grant.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

The proposed County activities to be funded as identified in the Attachment, as well as the disbursement of funds to cities, 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) and (5) of the State CEQA Guidelines on the basis that they are continuing administrative or organizational activities of government, and 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 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 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. In addition, based on the records of the proposed exempt activities, they 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 awarded funding is required by the subrecipient agreement to comply with CEQA, as applicable, in order to be reimbursed with grant funds. To the extent there are any changes proposed to the County 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, prior to implementation of any activities which constitute a project. CEO staff will continue to assist the lead federal granting agency, as necessary, to complete its requirement under the National Environmental Policy Act.

## **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

Procurement for items referenced in the Attachment will be 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)**

The Grant provides funding to the County for planning, equipment, training, exercises, and program management and administration for emergency prevention, preparedness, and response personnel which will have a positive impact on current services by improving and enhancing the County's ability to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from potential terrorist attacks and other disasters.

## **CONCLUSION**

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

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

9/10/2024

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "FAD" followed by a flourish, with the word "for" written in a similar style to the right.

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 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM  
ALLOCATION TO COUNTY DEPARTMENTS**

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Chief Executive Office	Management and Administration; EMG Hazard Mitigation; Large-Scale Damaged Infrastructure Simulation and Course	\$ 1,073,070
Fire	FS Regional Training Group - Battalion Chief; FS - County All Hazards Training; FS Regional Training Group - Catastrophic Planning Specialist 2	\$ 635,000
Health Services	Emergency Medical Services Facility Lease	\$ 200,000
Public Health	EMG Biowatch Activities and Logistical Support – Equipment; EMG Biowatch Activities and Logistical Support - Organization	\$ 75,000
Sheriff	EOB Maintenance and Sustainment; UAS 1; UAS Storage; Active Shooter Training; Chemical Detectors; Gas Meters; Mobile Mounted Rad Detectors; Personal Radiation Detection Equipment; PPE and Mass Destruction Training; Protection Suite Equipment; SRT Training; Portable PTZ Cameras; PTZ Cameras; Surveillance Room Equipment; Analytical and Investigative Subscription Services; Arson Equipment Maintenance and Sustainment; Breaching Tools; EOB Headsets; Rapid Deployment Equipment; Simmunition Kits; SkyTrac System; Tactical Camera Equipment; Technical Rescue Tools 1; Technical Rescue Tools 2; Technical Rescue Tools 3; Dive Equipment; Dive Equipment Maintenance and Sustainment; Screen Vessels Maintenance and Sustainment; Tactical S&R Equipment 1; Tactical S&R Equipment 2; Tactical S&R Equipment 3; Tactical S&R Equipment 4; Rad Detection Backpacks	\$ 1,297,403

**TOTAL \$ 3,280,473**