

MEMORANDUM

TO: Donna Barron, City Manager

FROM: Thomas Quinn, Emergency Administration Manager

VIA: Melinda Galler, Assistant City Manager

DATE: November 5, 2018

SUBJECT: **Approval of a Resolution for the Acceptance of the 2018 Homeland Security Grant Program's Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Grant Award in the Amount of \$125,955.52.**

BACKGROUND

The Office of Emergency Management received notice from the State of Texas Office of the Governor's Homeland Security Grants Division that the City of Lewisville has been awarded a grant in the amount \$129,955.52 under the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant program. The intent of the UASI grant program is to support local efforts in preparing for threats and hazards that pose risk to the community, and to improve the regional ability to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to and recover from acts of terrorism.

The City has been a recipient of a UASI grant annually since 2004. As per grant guidelines, the jurisdiction receives reimbursement of funds after authorized expenditure. The UASI grant is 100% federally funded and does not require the city to match any costs. The performance period for the FY 2018 UASI grant is through August 31, 2019.

ANALYSIS

The amount of \$129,955.52 is allocated at \$86,000 to purchase Ballistic Protective Equipment (BPE) for fire department personnel and \$39,955.52 to purchase equipment and supplies to begin providing Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training to residents. Both projects will be conducted simultaneously.

Currently, the fire department trains and responds as a Rescue Task Force (RTF) to assist the police department during active threat incidents. The RTF concept is a strategy where fire personnel go into an active threat scene early in the response with police protection to accelerate the treatment and evacuation of critically injured victims to increase chance of survival. Because the warm zone is an area where the scene is not declared fully secured, it is necessary to equip the fire personnel with ballistic protection when responding. The City will procure ballistic plates, plate carrier vests and helmets for each fire fighter. This program will have ongoing costs. The ballistic plates must be replaced every twenty years. The ballistic plate carrier vests do not have an expiration date and can be repaired as needed. Additional vests may have to be purchased for new personnel. The expiration date for ballistic helmets range from five to seven years for the cost of \$350 to \$500 per helmet.

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In addition to the BPE project, the City will also develop a CERT program to provide residents with disaster preparedness education and train them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. CERT offers a consistent, nationwide approach to volunteer training and organization that professional responders can rely on during disaster situations, which allows them to focus on more complex tasks. The City will procure training equipment and supplies to deliver training for residents. CERT backpacks, which contain personal protective gear and basic tools, will be provided to participants who complete the classroom series. This project will tie in with the Neighborhood Emergency Response Program that the City developed to provide emergency planning to neighborhoods.

RECOMMENDATION

It is City staff's recommendation that the City Council accept the grant and approve the resolution as set forth in the caption above.