

**CITY OF OAKLAND**  
**AGENDA REPORT**

2008 JUN 12 PM 1:55

TO: Office of the City Administrator  
ATTN: Deborah A. Edgerly  
FROM: Fire Department  
DATE: June 24, 2008

RE: **Resolution Authorizing the City Administrator to: Accept and Appropriate Two Grants Totaling One Hundred and Forty Four Thousand Three Hundred Six Dollars (\$144,306.00) Applied for During Federal Fiscal Year 2006 and Federal Fiscal Year 2007 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Grant Periods from State of California Homeland Security Grant Program for the City of Oakland, Office of Emergency Services (OES), Citizens of Oakland Respond to Emergencies (CORE) Program**

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**SUMMARY**

Staff is requesting that the Oakland City Council approve a resolution authorizing the City Administrator to: accept and appropriate two grants totaling one hundred and forty four thousand three hundred six dollars (\$144,306.00) applied for during Federal Fiscal Year 2006 and Federal Fiscal Year 2007 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) grant periods from State of California Homeland Security Grant Program for the City of Oakland, Office of Emergency Services (OES), Citizens of Oakland Respond to Emergencies (CORE) Program.

The grant funding will be used between June 15, 2008 until grant funds are exhausted to support the CORE program's one-time projects or program costs that will be used to enhance trainings and levels of participation by Oakland residents and the community. The CERT grant proposals were for funds from Federal Fiscal Years FY 2006 and FY 2007.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

City Council approval would authorize the City Administrator or her designee to accept and appropriate funding in the amount of \$144,306.00 from the State of California's Homeland Security Grant Program to the Alameda County Grant Fund (2160) for the Oakland Fire Department's Office of Emergency Services (20711), Office Emergency Services/Homeland Security Program (PS21) with a Project Number to be assigned; the same amount of funds will be appropriated in the Miscellaneous State Grants Account (46229). The grant period is June 15, 2008 until the grant funds are exhausted and there is no matching fund requirement for the City.

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Public Safety Committee  
June 24, 2008

Special project or one-time program costs are eligible for reimbursement, but not recurring program expenses. These one-time expenditures paid by the City's General Purpose Fund can then be reimbursed by the grant. Any other costs (CSO, Contract Assessment fee, Central Stores, etc.) will be paid by the grant or with funds available in Fire's 2007-09 Adopted Budget. Accordingly, funds are available in OES's operating budget in Fund 1010, Organization 20711, to support the projects described herein and offset the costs that can not be reimbursed by the grant.

### **BACKGROUND**

Since September 11, 2001, professional organizations have worked together with service organizations and volunteers to integrate their approach to personal preparedness and community-wide response to disasters.

As a result, the President of the United States launched a national Citizens Corps initiative in 2002. This initiative covers a number of different programs, including Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT).

In April 2004, Oakland's Emergency Management Board agreed to function as the City's Citizens Corps Council in order for Oakland to remain eligible for Homeland Security and other federal preparedness funds.

### **KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS**

Operating under guidance from the Office of Domestic Preparedness, which is a branch of the federal Department of Homeland Security, the State of California's Office of Homeland Security currently administers the Citizens Corps Program. A "local control" philosophy was adopted to allow individual jurisdictions to tailor Citizen Corps programs to their specific structures within general guidelines that supported statewide consistency. As such, the State chose each County Operational Area as a means to both award and administer CERT grant funding to their eligible jurisdictions.

CERT training has always been the “backbone” of the national program. The City of Oakland’s nationally recognized CERT program is the Citizens of Oakland Respond to Emergencies, also known as the CORE program. A majority of the grant funding will be used to enhance the CORE program by producing video based Individual and Family Preparedness Training programs in English, Spanish, and Cantonese.

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

In an effort to reach a wider community audience in Oakland, the Oakland Fire Department, OES proposed to develop and distribute a CORE companion DVD/Video training that will be used to increase the number of trained residents and community members in Individual and Family Preparedness. OES staff developed a proposal for the grant funding request to Alameda County OES to obtain CERT grant funds to subsidize the cost to develop and distribute a DVD/Video for the Oakland community that will be available at no cost. In addition the funding will be used to develop a media campaign that promotes community emergency preparedness actions and the CORE program. Finally, the funds will also be used to develop an incentive program for low income residents that complete the CORE training courses. The grant proposals were approved by the State to produce a media campaign for the CORE program, enhance the CORE program website, develop and distribute a DVD/Video training and purchase individual mini-emergency kits for low-income residents that complete the CORE program training, as an incentive.

### **SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES**

***Economic:*** In emergencies, CORE neighborhood teams can provide valuable support to first responders, emergency management agencies, and organizations like the American Red Cross. CORE members are trained to evaluate, control, and organize situations until emergency help arrives. Some minor emergency situations may be resolved without utilizing emergency personnel. This initiative will help speed up economic recovery.

***Environmental:*** CORE training provides the community with members who have the skill to mitigate various hazards, including those that are environmental.

***Social Equity:*** CORE teams promote an increase in community preparedness and safety. A neighborhood that is informed of and trained in the principles of CORE can help keep the community safer. Specifically, funds from this grant will be used to distribute and create individual family emergency preparedness training, via a DVD/Video in English, Spanish and Cantonese.

**DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS**

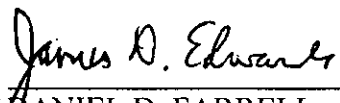
The CORE program is inclusive of all Oakland residents and community members. CORE supports training specifically for senior citizens as well as persons with disabilities and strongly supports the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other applicable laws.

**RECOMMENDATION(S) AND RATIONALE**

Staff recommends that the City Council accept the report and approve the accompanying resolution authorizing the City Administrator or designee to accept the grants totaling \$144,306 and appropriate these funds to the Oakland Fire Department's, Office of Emergency Services (OES).

City Council's acceptance and approval will allow OES to receive funding for enhancements to the CORE program and to other Citizen Corps type programs sponsored through its Emergency Management and Disaster Preparedness Council.

Respectfully submitted,

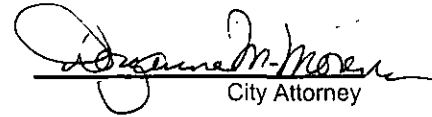
  
For DANIEL D. FARRELL  
Fire Chief  
Fire Department

Prepared by:  
Renee Domingo, Director  
Office of Emergency Services and Homeland Security

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:

  
Office of the City Administrator

Item: \_\_\_\_\_  
Public Safety Committee  
June 24 2008


  
 City Attorney

 OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK  
 OAKLAND

**OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL**

2008 JUN 12 PM 1:55

RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE TWO GRANTS TOTALING ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY FOUR THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED SIX DOLLARS (\$144,306.00) APPLIED FOR DURING FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2006 AND FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2007 COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT) GRANT PERIODS FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF OAKLAND, OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES (OES), CITIZENS OF OAKLAND RESPOND TO EMERGENCIES (CORE) PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland and the Oakland City Council are committed to improving community emergency preparedness by providing citizens with the training and skills to sustain themselves and assist family members, neighbors, coworkers, and others until emergency personnel arrive; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland and the Oakland City Council are committed to improving local government's emergency preparedness through ongoing support of its Emergency Management and Disaster Preparedness Council, which is Oakland's Disaster Council as prescribed by the California Emergency Services Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the President of the United States established a Citizen Corps program to assist individual states with the development of Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) and Citizen Corps Councils; and

**WHEREAS**, the Office of Domestic Preparedness, a branch of the federal Department of Homeland Security, provides the States with Homeland Security grants to fund a range of domestic preparedness initiatives, including the Citizens Corps program; and

**WHEREAS**, through the State of California's Homeland Security grant program, the State has allowed local jurisdictions to tailor Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) programs to meet the specific needs of their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alameda County Operational Area is awarding and administering the grant to Alameda County jurisdictions for their local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program is called the Citizens of Oakland's Respond to Emergencies (CORE) program; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland's Office of Emergency Services has requested and been awarded two grants totaling \$144,306.00 to support its CERT program and there is no match requirement or additional General Purpose Fund appropriation necessary for indirect costs, such as CSO, Central Stores, Contract Assessment, etc. now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** That the Oakland City Council hereby authorizes the City Administrator or her designee to accept and appropriate funding in the amount of \$144,306.00 from the State of California's Homeland Security Grant Program to the Alameda County Grant Fund (2160) for the Oakland Fire Department's Office of Emergency Services (Organization 20711) Citizens Of Oakland Respond To Emergencies (CORE) Program Office of Emergency Services/Homeland Security Program (PS21) to various expenditure accounts and with a Project Number to be assigned, the same amount will be appropriated in the Miscellaneous State Grants Account (46229); and, be it

**FURTHER RESOVED:** That the City Council hereby appoints the City Administrator, or her designee, as its agent to execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to, applications, agreements, payment requests, that may be necessary for the completion of the Project.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, \_\_\_\_\_

**PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

AYES - BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID, AND  
PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION --

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
LATONDA SIMMONS  
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of  
the City of Oakland, California