

CITY OF OAKLAND
AGENDA REPORT

FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND
2004 NOV 10 PM 4:11

TO: OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR
ATT: DEBORAH EDGERLY
FROM: FIRE DEPARTMENT
DATE: NOVEMBER 16, 2004

RE: Resolution Authorizing the City Administrator to Accept and Appropriate a grant of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/FEMA – Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) to Fund the Oakland Fire Department MMRS Program and Enhance Integrated, Systematic Mass Casualty Preparedness, with Primary Focus on Terrorist Events involving Radiological, Nuclear, Chemical Biological, or Explosive Agents

SUMMARY

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has been the funding source for the Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) program since the program's inception in 2000. In 2003, MMRS joined the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other programs from the Departments of Health and Human Services, Energy, and Justice to become the Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate of the new Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The City of Oakland has been awarded another grant in the amount of \$500,000 to continue the Oakland MMRS program. The grant of \$500,000 is to be utilized to ensure program continuation, sustainability and a special project that includes a proposal to purchase a rehabilitation trailer for first responders. This will ensure the physical and mental condition of emergency service personnel operating at the scene of a prolonged emergency does not deteriorate to a point that affects safety and the integrity of the operation.

A resolution has been prepared authorizing the City Administrator to accept and appropriate \$500,000.00 from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/FEMA, Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) grant, for MMRS program continuation and sustainment that has been implemented by the Oakland Fire Department.

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FISCAL IMPACT

The proposed resolution authorizes the acceptance and appropriation of \$500,000.00 of DHS/FEMA grant funds for the continuation and sustainability of the MMRS program in the Oakland Fire Department. The grant funds will be utilized to cover costs of MMRS program continuation, sustainability and special project for eighteen months as specified in the grant performance period, to be utilized for continued program planning, implementation, training, equipment purchases and staff costs. Staff costs will be calculated at the prevailing overtime rate.

This grant does not require matching funds from the City. No overhead waiver is required. There is no fiscal impact to the General Fund.

Revenues will be increased and funds appropriated by the grant amount \$500,000 to the following: the Department of Health and Human Service Fund (Fund #2128), the Emergency Medical Services Division (organization #20913), the Emergency Medical Services program (Program #PS19), and a project to be determined.

BACKGROUND

The City of Oakland was fortunate to be one of 124 cities nationwide to have been selected as an MMRS city to receive much needed funding to develop an MMRS program, in order to be better prepared for a terrorist incident. To date, the Oakland Fire Department has received \$600,000.00 from DHHS to fund the MMRS program implementation in Oakland and to make equipment purchases.

The original funding was to provide the Oakland Fire Department with some of the financial resources necessary for planning efforts, program development, purchasing of special pharmaceuticals, equipment, and for identifying the training requirements for an effective Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) program. This includes integrating, working with and training with all the respective emergency response agencies that would respond to a terrorist incident within the city limits. The MMRS system and protocols are the principal resources that will be utilized in responding to the health and medical consequences of radiological, biological, nuclear or chemical terrorist incidents.

On May 2004, the completion of the previous MMRS contract was finalized.

The current grant of \$500,000.00 is funding for the continuation and sustainability of the Oakland MMRS program. The funding will be utilized to ensure that the MMRS program in Oakland remains fully operational for at least another eighteen months.

Specifically, the grant funds will be used to further enhance the City of Oakland's integrated, systematic preparedness for mass casualty events, sustainment of enhanced capabilities, and special project with primary focus on terrorist events using Weapons of Mass Destruction capable of producing mass civilian casualties.

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KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

In the wake of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, along with the subsequent cases of Anthrax exposure, and the bombings in Madrid, Spain, the threats of a terrorist attack continue to be real.

The City of Oakland and the entire Bay Area region have many target hazards. It is critical for Oakland to maintain its MMRS program to ensure operability and continue with its planning, training and procurement of pharmaceuticals and equipment that have been identified through various interagency committee meetings. Oakland has already obtained antidotes for Chemical Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) agents to protect first responders (fire and police) and our citizens. Oakland has also obtained enough Doxycycline (Antibiotics) to treat 10,000 victims for the first 48 hours after a biological terrorist attack, until Federal resources or the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) resources arrive. The Oakland Fire Department will continue to develop new partnerships and will maintain ongoing collaboration with local, state and federal agencies to ensure that we are better prepared for a terrorist incident.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: No economic opportunities are anticipated.

Social Equity: No social equity opportunities are anticipated.

Environmental: No environmental opportunities are anticipated.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

No Disability and Senior Citizen Access anticipated

RECOMMENDATION(S) AND RATIONALE


Response planning, awareness training, specialized equipment, supplies and education are critical in reducing injuries, or the loss of life and property.

Based upon these facts, staff strongly recommends that Oakland accept this funding and continue to implement the MMRS program to ensure program sustainability, and operational readiness during terrorist incidents.

ACTION REQUESTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff recommends that City Council accept the report and approve the resolution authorizing the City Administrator to accept and appropriate \$500,000.00 from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/FEMA, Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) grant to fund the continuation of the Oakland MMRS program implemented by the Oakland Fire Department.

Respectfully Submitted,



DANIEL FARRELL, INTERIM FIRE CHIEF
PREPARED BY: LT. Carlos Harvey
EMS Division

APPROVED FOR FORWARDING TO
THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:



OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR