



## ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**County Board Agenda Item  
Meeting of April 24, 2010**

**DATE:** March 24, 2010

**SUBJECT:** Authorization and appropriation of an FY 2009 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Grant Award

**C. M. RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Authorize the County Manager to accept \$285,000 in non-competitive grant funds from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM).
2. Appropriate \$285,000 in grant funds from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (101.364900) to the Police Department (101.31202) for costs associated with the purchase of equipment related to this grant.

**ISSUES:** Authorized program expenditures under this award are limited to the purchase of a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosive weapons (CBRNE) armored rescue vehicle and CBRNE personal protective equipment.

**SUMMARY:** The Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) through the State Homeland Security Program, which is funded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, has awarded the Police Department \$285,000 to purchase a CBRNE armored rescue vehicle and CBRNE personal protective equipment.

**BACKGROUND:** The State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) provides financial support for the implementation of State Homeland Security Strategies developed by VDEM. In addition, the SHSP supports the implementation of the National Preparedness Guidelines (NPG), the National Incident Management System (NIMS), and the National Response Framework (NRF).

**DISCUSSION:** Law enforcement personnel are drawn into critical incidents that involve elevated risks and complex responses. Augmenting the operational and response capabilities of the Police Department's Emergency Response Team through the deployment of a CBRNE armored rescue vehicle will reduce their vulnerability in dangerous incidents. This vehicle will provide the capability to quickly, safely, and effectively respond to terrorist incidents and other hostile situations even while operating at a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, or Explosive weapons incident. Additionally, a CBRNE armored rescue vehicle is capable of both civilian and officer rescues and/or evacuations. A CBRNE armored rescue vehicle ensures

County Manager: BMD/MJS

County Attorney: AT/SJM

Staff: M. Douglas Scott, Chief of Police x4040

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preparedness and enhances protection to the community while mitigating safety risks to first responders dispatched to dangerous operational environments.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Under this award the VDEM will provide the Police Department \$285,000 in grant funds on a reimbursable basis with no local match required. The use of grant funds for maintenance contracts and warranties are allowable but cannot exceed the grant period of performance, which is July 31, 2011. After this period, the Department will need to include in its budget about \$4,000 for maintenance. The life expectancy of an armored rescue vehicle is 15-20 years. The Police Department has no plan to replace the vehicle unless additional grant funding is available. Since the vehicle will be used only in emergency situations, the fuel cost is anticipated to be minimal and can be covered by the Department's annual budget.