



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

County Board Agenda Item Meeting of November 19, 2011

DATE: October 20, 2011

SUBJECT: Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) Grant - License Plate Recognition Project (Continuation)

C. M. RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Authorize the County Manager to accept \$1,095,000 in regional non-competitive grant funds from the Government of the District of Columbia, Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (794.374900).
2. Appropriate \$1,095,000 in grant funds from the District of Columbia, Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (794.374900) to the Police Department (794.31202) for the License Plate Recognition Program and for continuing the funding of 1.5 FTEs over a two-year period to administer the FY 2011 Urban Areas Security Initiative sub-grant including personnel, consultants, equipment and supply expenses.

ISSUES: The Police Department will continue to administer a U.S. Department of Homeland Security sub-grant award with the purpose of continuing the implementation of the license plate recognition program for the National Capital Region (NCR). All funds awarded pursuant to this sub-grant will be expended. There are no issues associated with this funding.

SUMMARY: The Police Department has been awarded \$1,095,000 in regional UASI funding based on a proposal submitted to the NCR Homeland Security Program to continue to provide law enforcement agencies within NCR with license plate recognition (LPR) technology as part of a comprehensive plan to sustain an integrated effort to prevent and protect against terrorist incidents. The sub-grant period of performance is September 1, 2011 through October 31, 2013 with the ACPD functioning as the local administrative agency responsible for coordinating the purchase and distribution of equipment to the sub-recipients.

BACKGROUND: The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has made a significant investment in homeland security in the NCR through the distribution of UASI funds. The FY 2011 UASI sub-grant is made available through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and was awarded to the Police Department by the NCR Senior Policy Group and Chief Administrative Officers. These funds address the unique planning, organization, equipment,

County Manager:

BMD/mjs

County Attorney:

[Signature]

[Signature]

22. A.

Staff: Jim Page, Police Department

training, and exercise needs of high-threat, high-density Urban Areas, and assists them in building an enhanced and sustainable capacity to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism. As the State Administrative Agent for the NCR, the District of Columbia provides management of the sub-grant funds.

DISCUSSION: The goal of the NCR License Plate Recognition Program is to provide law enforcement agencies located within the NCR with an additional tool to enhance homeland security and prevent acts of terrorism aimed at disrupting security in the region. The sub-grant period of performance for this grant is September 1, 2011 - October 31, 2013. The ACPD will continue to serve as the project manager for sub-recipients of this initiative. As project manager the ACPD will review project requirements, determine vendors, arrange product demonstrations, recommend selection, request bids, manage the budget, document purchases, arrange delivery, and maintain records for payment of vendors and other financial disbursements related to this sub-grant. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the ACPD and those agencies assigned equipment will specify that maintenance will be the responsibility of the agency assigned the equipment and will further state that all equipment is to be properly maintained or returned to project manager who will reassign the equipment if cost effective. The anticipated lifespan of the equipment is 3-8 years depending on the amount of use and type of storage facility.

The National Capital Region License Plate Recognition Program is an in-depth, intelligence-driven counter terrorism program designed to improve the security of the NCR through the surveillance of critical infrastructure locations and the identification of potential terrorists. The LPR system deployment can be at a predetermined fixed location or as a mobile unit, and it will automatically "read" license plate registration numbers comparing them to a predefined watch list – obtained from the FBI's Terrorism Watch List, NCIC/VCIN stolen vehicle and stolen license plate reports, and other official intelligence resources. The LPR Program uses image-processing technology to identify vehicles via license plates and when a match is found, a signal is activated notifying a police officer of the detected vehicle and at the same time providing information about the vehicle. At this point a vehicle can be stopped or its presence at a particular location stored in a computer database allowing law enforcement to generate additional investigative leads.

Law enforcement agencies within the NCR are presently using License Plate Recognition technology; these systems operate independently of each other with no capability to share information. The continuation of this project will expand the use of LPR technology within the NCR and require participating agencies to implement LPR technology into their everyday counter-terrorism enforcement efforts. As the program advances, the NCR will realize a real-time database capable of linking the entire region.

FISCAL IMPACT: The NCR Senior Policy Group and Chief Administrative Officers have awarded \$1,095,000 in funding for this project. The grant will fund 100% of the purchase costs of the LPR systems and there is no required match. Additionally, 1.5 FTEs for a limited term position for a police lieutenant/project director with benefits, for the two-year period of performance projected at \$81,618.36 minimum to \$134,927.41 maximum and a staff assistant without benefits projected at \$18,116.80 minimum to \$26,020.80 maximum along with other

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associated program expenses will be fully grant funded and are not expected to exceed \$321,895 over the life of the grant.

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