



# CITY COUNCIL AGENDA STATEMENT



September 25, 2018

File ID: 18-0420

## **TITLE**

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHULA VISTA ACCEPTING \$62,815 FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND APPROPRIATING SAID FUNDS TO THE POLICE GRANTS SECTION OF THE FEDERAL GRANTS FUND FOR THE URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE (4/5 VOTE REQUIRED)

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Council adopt the resolution.

## **SUMMARY**

The San Diego Office of Homeland Security, which administers the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI), has notified the City of Chula Vista of fiscal year 2017 UASI funding. The Urban Area Security Initiative addresses the unique planning, organization, equipment, training, and exercise needs of high-threat, high-density urban areas. This funding will be used to purchase equipment for the Special Weapons & Tactics (SWAT) & Patrol teams.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

The Director of Development Services has reviewed the proposed activity for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and has determined that the activity is not a "Project" as defined under Section 15378 of the State CEQA Guidelines because it will not result in a physical change in the environment; therefore, pursuant to Section 15060(c)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines, the activity is not subject to CEQA. Thus, no environmental review is required.

## **BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

Not Applicable

## **DISCUSSION**

One of the core missions of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security is to enhance the ability of state, territory, local, and tribal governments to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism and other disasters. As first responders to emergency incidents, the Police, Fire and Public Works Departments have benefited greatly from several Federal Homeland Security Grants. The fiscal year 2017 Urban Area Security Initiative (FY2017 UASI) provides funding for the continued development of readiness and operational response capacity of Police and Fire first responder personnel. UASI grant administrators from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) have

approved the expenditure plan for equipment, planning and training needs of the City. The spending plan was submitted in advance of funding approval in accordance with grant requirements. Grant funds are restricted as to how they can be spent and cannot supplant normal budgetary items for the City. The specific spending plan for these funds is as follows:

#### Avatar Robot Arm Accessory, Shields, and Beacons

The Police Department's SWAT Team currently owns an AVATAR robot. This robot enhances the capabilities of SWAT and tactical response teams by allowing them to quickly and safely inspect dangerous situations, without the need to send personnel in before the situation is assessed. The AVATAR robot arm is an attachment that fits directly onto the robot. The AVATAR arm is a five-axis robotic arm, fitted with built-in camera that is easily mounted on the robot. With this new accessory, the team will be able to open doors, drop off items and deploy less than lethal munitions during critical incidents.

The infrared beacons and ballistic shields will also be used by the SWAT Team. The beacons are used for night time training and critical incidents. The new ballistic shields incorporate the latest materials, technology and lightweight design, providing multi-hit capability from bullets, both items ensuring officer safety.

#### Regional Crowd Control Equipment

The Police Department will also use these funds to purchase 55 riot gear equipment. This equipment will be placed inside marked patrol vehicles to be readily accessible during critical incidents. The equipment includes protective padding, gas masks, hydration pack, shin guards and gloves.

#### **DECISION-MAKER CONFLICT**

Staff has reviewed the decision contemplated by this action and has determined that it is not site-specific and consequently, the 500-foot rule found in California Code of Regulations Title 2, section 18702.2(a)(11), is not applicable to this decision for purposes of determining a disqualifying real property-related financial conflict of interest under the Political Reform Act (Cal. Gov't Code § 87100, et seq.).

Staff is not independently aware, and has not been informed by any City Council member, of any other fact that may constitute a basis for a decision maker conflict of interest in this matter.

#### **LINK TO STRATEGIC GOALS**

The City's Strategic Plan has five major goals: Operational Excellence, Economic Vitality, Healthy Community, Strong and Secure Neighborhoods and a Connected Community. This resolution supports the goal of Strong and Secure Neighborhoods by enhancing the readiness and operations response capacity of emergency first responder personnel.

#### **CURRENT-YEAR FISCAL IMPACT**

Approval of this resolution will result in a one-time appropriation of \$34,673 to the supplies & services category and \$28,142 to the capital category of the Police Grants Section of the Federal Grants Fund. The funding from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security will completely offset these costs. Therefore, there is no net fiscal impact to the City.

**ONGOING FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no ongoing fiscal impact for accepting these grant funds.

**ATTACHMENTS**

None

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