To the Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVES (UASI) GRANT AND THE PROPOSED PROJECTS AND PROCESS TO APPLY FOR FY24 UASI GRANT FUNDS

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the Urban Area Security Initiatives (UASI) grant program, historical UASI grant funding levels, proposed FY24 projects, and the process and timing to apply for FY24 UASI grant funding.

Urban Area Security Initiatives (UASI) Background
The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has the statutory authority to deliver disaster and non-disaster financial assistance programs in support of its mission, and that of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), largely through grants and cooperative agreements. These programs account for a significant amount of the federal assistance funds for which FEMA is accountable.

The UASI program is intended to provide financial assistance to address the unique multi-discipline planning, organization, equipment, training, and exercise needs of high-threat, high-density Urban Areas, and to assist these areas in building and sustaining capabilities to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from threats or acts of terrorism using the Whole Community approach.

The Department of Homeland Security identifies priority areas related to the most serious threats to the nation, and UASI program applicants are expected to address those priority areas with their UASI funds.

The six priority areas for FY24 UASI are:

1. Enhancing the Protection of Soft Targets/Crowded Places
2. Enhancing Information and Intelligence Sharing and Analysis
3. Combating Domestic Violent Extremism
4. Enhancing Cybersecurity
5. Enhancing Community Preparedness and Resilience
6. Enhancing Election Security

A state or high-risk urban area must allocate 70 percent of funding to gaps identified through the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) and Stakeholder Preparedness Review (SPR) process.

Additionally, recipients are encouraged to submit project requests that focus on community capacity building through the use of effective planning, training and awareness campaigns, equipment and capital projects, and exercises.

City of Fort Worth UASI Funding History

UASI Grant Year	Award Amount
2018	$ 3,074,339.02
2019	$ 3,413,966.22
2020	$ 3,018,183.00
2021	$ 3,559,766.00
2022	$ 3,381,183.00
2023	$ 3,481,874.31
2024	$ 3,014,543.17

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<u>UASI FY24 Proposed Projects</u>
FWLab oversees the UASI project selection process, and Fire is responsible for coordinating with other departments and for grant administration. The UASI FY24 program period runs from February 1, 2025 through January 31, 2026. Since this round is the last opportunity for funding prior to the 2026 World Cup, projects are requested that support World Cup preparedness and response.

Department	Project	Amount
Fire- Office Emergency Management (OEM)	Planning	$ 777,240.00
Fire- Office Emergency Management (OEM)	Community Preparedness & Resilience	$ 475,000.00
Fire- Office Emergency Management (OEM)	JEOC Sustainment	$ 193,820.00
Fire- Administration	M&A (Management and Administration)	$ 151,024.00
Fire- Technical Rescue Team	TEEX Training	$ 147,916.00
Fire- Technical Rescue Team	Rescue Tools	$ 84,000.00
Fire- Technical Rescue Team	Rescue Struts	$ 19,600.00
Fire-HazMat Team	Incident Command Classes	$ 175,000.00
Fire-HazMat Team	Fire Blankets	$ 62,500.00
Fire-HazMat Team	Gooseneck Trailer	$ 54,817.00
Fire- Emergency Medical Services (EMS)	Two (2) RTVs	$ 91,506.00
Police_Fire- Arson/Bomb	Training and Travel	$ 73,320.00
Police_Fire- Arson/Bomb	Repairs & Upgrades for Robot and Equipment	$ 124,500.00
Police_Fire- Arson/Bomb	Explosive Magazine	$ 35,000.00
Police_Fire- Arson/Bomb	Ballistic Helmets	$ 17,600.00
Police_Fire- Arson/Bomb	Night Vision Goggles	$ 44,000.00
Police_Fire- Arson/Bomb	Disruptor Kit	$ 23,200.00
Police_Fire- Arson/Bomb	Bomb Suit	$ 41,000.00
Police_Fire- Arson/Bomb	Rigging Gear and Training Aids	$ 13,500.00
Police- Fusion Center	Fusion Cubicles	$ 20,000.00
Police- Fusion Center	INTEX Travel & Training	$ 60,000.00
Information Technology (IT)	Password Reset Process Application Consultant	$ 50,000.00
Information Technology (IT)	Firewall Best Practice Implementation Consultant	$ 50,000.00
Information Technology (IT)	Physical Security- Badge Readers & Cameras	$ 150,000.00
Information Technology (IT)	OKTA Upgrade Consultant	$ 30,000.00
Information Technology (IT)	Attack Simulation Exercise Consultant	$ 50,000.00
	Total UASI 2024 Projects	$ 3,014,543.00

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UASI FY24 Timeline

November 2023 – Fire sends grant solicitation to departments asking for them to prepare potential requests that fit within the UASI grant program.

December 2023 – FWLab sets deadline to receive requests prior to calendar year end.

January 2024 – FWLab and Fire establish a UASI 24 review committee consisting of multiple departments to review and rank departmental proposals.

January 20, 2024 – Fire sends the committee recommendations and rankings to City Manager's Office for review and discussion.

February 1, 2024 – Fire finalizes UASI 24 funding requests and works through the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) review process.

April 11, 2024 – Original grant submittal deadline

April 26, 2024 – Revised submittal deadline for 10% reduction in UASI funding level

September 2024 – Office of the Governor awards funding.

October 2024 – City Council considers M&C to authorize application and accept UASI 24 funding.

February 1, 2025 – Grant program period begins.

January 31, 2026 – Grant program period ends.

Questions about this report may be directed to Jim Davis, Fire Chief at 817-392-6888, or Christianne Simmons, Chief Transformation Officer, FWLab at 817-392-6222.

David Cooke
City Manager

ISSUED BY THE CITY MANAGER   **FORT WORTH, TEXAS**