



County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors

Agenda Item Submittal

From: Office of Response, Recovery and Resilience

Subject: Ratify Grant Agreement with the City and County of San Francisco

Meeting Date: March 25, 2025

Formal Title: Ratify grant agreement with the City and County of San Francisco in the amount of \$21,121 for the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) grant program, and take related actions

Recommended Actions

1. Ratify grant agreement with the City and County of San Francisco in the amount of \$21,121 for the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) grant program; and
2. Adopt resolution accepting and appropriating unanticipated revenue in the amount of \$21,121 into the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Office of Response, Recovery & Resilience (OR3) budget; and
3. Authorize the OR3 Director to reimburse the Santa Cruz Long Term Recovery Group (SCLTRG) for grant-related expenditures

Executive Summary

The UASI supports regional resilience by funding projects that address homeland security risks. In 2024, OR3 received \$21,121 to build capacity in Santa Cruz County's Voluntary Organizations Assisting in Disaster (VOAD) network, enhancing coordination among disaster response groups. In partnership with the SCLTRG Executive Director, this initiative will engage community-based, non-profit, and faith-based organizations in meetings, trainings, and governance development. By improving collaboration and preparedness, the project maximizes the region's ability to respond and recover effectively to emergencies and disasters.

Discussion

UASI unites three major cities and twelve counties across the Bay Area to allocate federal homeland security grants. These funds are used to assess regional risks, identify capability gaps, and enhance resilience.

In 2024, UASI invited member jurisdictions to submit proposals for projects aimed at strengthening community resilience. OR3 initially requested \$500,000 to support multiple emergency preparedness initiatives, particularly in vulnerable communities and to improve communication at emergency shelters. However, with a final allocation of \$21,121, OR3 shifted focus to developing the VOAD network, which enhances coordination among disaster response organizations for greater regional impact.

The SCLTRG Executive Director, in collaboration with OR3, will lead this effort by engaging community-based, non-profit, and faith-based organizations in VOAD meetings, trainings, and governance development.

Project Deliverables by December 2025:

- At least six planning meetings
- Participation in two VOAD training sessions
- Development of a draft VOAD Governance Document

Financial Impact

Grant funds will be accepted into the OR3 FY 2024-25 budget GL186000/41150 and appropriated to 186000/62381 to support SCLTRG.

Strategic Initiatives

Operational Plan - Comprehensive Health & Safety

Submitted By:

David Reid, Director

Recommended By:

Carlos J. Palacios, County Administrative Officer

Artificial Intelligence Acknowledgment:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) did not significantly contribute to the development of this agenda item.