



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# City Council Memorandum

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**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL      DATE: MAY 2, 2023**

**FROM: FIRE DEPARTMENT      WARDS: ALL**

**SUBJECT: PURCHASE OF MOBILE BARRIER EQUIPMENT FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FROM MERIDIAN RAPID DEFENSE GROUP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$113,755.30**

**ISSUES:**

Approve the purchase of mobile barrier equipment for the Fire Department's Office of Emergency Management from Meridian Rapid Defense Group in the amount \$113,755.30.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the City Council approve the purchase of mobile barrier equipment for the Fire Department's Office of Emergency Management from Meridian Rapid Defense Group in the amount \$113,755.30.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Department Homeland Security (DHS) offers the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) program to enhance regional preparedness high-threat, high-density areas and provides funding opportunities every fiscal year to address the unique multi-discipline planning, operations, equipment, and training needs to these areas as it relates to terrorism prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery.

On November 19, 2019, the City Council approved acceptance of the FY 2019 Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) in the amount of \$2,687,750.00, for regional training activities, equipment, staff salaries, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program materials, and Office of Emergency Management Critical Infrastructure Assessment program.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Riverside Fire Department (RFD) currently owns and operates two mobile barriers and one tow vehicle. The purchase of mobile barrier equipment will add eight anti-vehicle barriers, two barriers drop deck trailers and one field tow bar that will be used with deployable and shareable UASI funded portable vehicle barricades systems. These barricade systems allow partner agencies to enhance and protect ingress and egress for infrastructure protection. This equipment

will prevent vehicles from accidentally or intentionally entering areas that have been closed to maintain critical infrastructure protection, public safety, and personnel protection.

The systems are hinged and have a rigid crash plate. These barrier systems are designed to impede vehicle ramming attacks. The barrier systems can be shared and deployed over extended periods of time within the UASI region at high density, high threat events that require additional protection. The focus of this equipment is to be utilized for infrastructure protection and special events. This equipment can control ingress and egress providing enhanced security for critical infrastructure, public gatherings, and safety personnel. Having this additional barrier system heavy duty tow vehicle will allow for quicker deployment of the multiple barrier systems and their accessories as the UASI continues to purchase barriers and expand this capability for the region. The vehicle barriers are towed into place for use at short term and long-term special events such as the Festival of Lights. Barriers may also need to be rapidly towed for use at emergency incidents and at critical infrastructure.

The UASI FY19 grant performance period ends on May 31, 2023, whereby all approved goods and services need to be purchased, received, and invoiced by this date to receive the grant reimbursement. The Meridian Rapid Defense Group, LLC quote attached is provided under the terms and conditions of the General Services Administration (GSA) Authorized Federal Supply Schedule Contract #47QSWA19D001F.

Per Purchasing Resolution 23914, Acquisition of Goods, Section 602 (f) states, "Competitive Procurement through the Informal Procurement and Formal Procurement process shall not be required in any of the following circumstances: ... (f) When Cooperative Purchasing is available and undertaken or when Goods can be obtained through Federal, State and/or other public entity pricing contracts or price agreements".

The Purchasing Manager concurs that the recommendation complies with the Purchasing Resolution No. 23914, Section 602(f).

### **STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:**

This item contributes to Strategic Priority No. 2 *Community Well-Being* and Goal No. 2.6 – Strengthen community preparedness for emergencies to ensure effective response and recovery.

This item aligns with Each of the five Cross-Cutting Threads as follows:

- 1. Community Trust** – The Department of Homeland Security's Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant has increased the capabilities and capacities of our first responder departments and emergency management agencies for over a decade increasing community trust in our emergency response efforts.
- 2. Equity** – Funding provided by the Department of Homeland Security help the region plan and equip departments to protect our diverse community including those with access and functional needs.
- 3. Fiscal Responsibility** – The use of the Department of Homeland Security grant funding increases the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario Metropolitan Area's capability and capacity to plan for, train for, exercise and respond to emergencies within the region and beyond through classes and costs associated with training staff, UASI program

administration, and equipment acquisition and organization of planning, training, and exercising.

**4. Innovation** – The Riverside Fire Department- Office of Emergency Management manages the Riverside Urban Area Security Initiative by bringing regional partners on board to build innovative capabilities throughout the two-county region.

**5. Sustainability & Resiliency** – Educating responders, individuals and community organizations thru the UASI program develops disaster resilient organizations through critical infrastructure assessments and disaster training that increases our overall community resilience.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The total fiscal impact of the action is \$113,755.30. Funds are budgeted and available in the UASI Fund, UASI FY 2019 expenditure account 9167720-440452.

Prepared by: Michael Moore, Fire Chief  
Certified as to  
availability of funds: Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer  
Approved by: Mike Futrell, City Manager  
Approved as to form: Phaedra A. Norton, City Attorney

Attachments:

1. Quote