

# Bay Area UASI



Bay Area Urban Areas Security Initiative Quarterly Newsletter

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## Regional Coronavirus Vaccinations Begin

After months of work by drug companies to develop a vaccine to fight the COVID-19 pandemic, on December 11, 2020, the FDA issued an emergency authorization for the Pfizer vaccine and then on December 18th, Moderna also received the same emergency authorization for the use of their vaccine. These approvals allowed for shipments to begin and marked a significant milestone in the country's battle against the deadly virus that has killed more than 400,000 Americans.

First doses of the vaccine were administered in the Bay



Area by December 21st, but the pace of distribution has been slow, mirroring the situation across the country, as states, counties and health providers have been

left largely on their own to figure out how to get the vaccine to the people who are first in line to receive it. By the end of December, 12.4 million doses of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines had been sent out across the country, but just 2.7 million people in the United States had received their first dose, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, has warned that vaccines won't be widely available to all 330 million Americans until well into 2021.

In 2019, the Bay Area received funding from the

Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP) to improve the region's ability to provide life-sustaining commodities after a disruption in critical lifelines and services. Some of the activities that are either underway or in process, include: developing procedures for receiving, staging, and distributing commodities and bulk donations, training local staff and personnel from public works, public utilities, transit, and social services agencies, and then conducting an exercise to test local logistics operations capabilities.

The Bay Area also received an RCPGP award in FY 20. This award builds on the FY 19 project, taking information learned from the COVID-19 response to develop updates for local plans for improved regional pandemic preparedness. The project includes: regional workshops leading to a "Pandemic Preparedness Framework", an update on the California Region II Medical Health Multi Agency Coordination Guide, a Public Information Toolkit, pre-scripted resource requests, an updated Care and Shelter Planning Toolkit, local planning Technical Assistance, and training for long-term care facilities. These planning efforts will lead to another region-wide exercise via Golden Eagle.

In addition to the participation by all UASI jurisdictions, the Emergency Management and Medical and Public Health Work Groups will be coordinating with the private sector, as well as state and federal agencies.

If you want to become involved, please contact RCPGP Program Manager [Corinne.Bartshire@sfgov.org](mailto:Corinne.Bartshire@sfgov.org).

# Bay Area UASI Updates



## Securing the Cities Program Update



The Northern California Securing the Cities (STC) Program has been busy engaging stakeholders and developing the program. The goal of this program is to enhance capabilities to prevent the successful possession, movement and deployment of a nuclear or radiological weapon.

Newly hired STC Program Manager Dominic Yin is working closely with the UASI General Manager and the Management Team to chair the Principal Partners Committee and coordinate the region's strategies and capabilities with the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction (CWMD) office and State/Local stakeholders. In year one, the Preventive Radiological and Nuclear Detection (PRND) Strategic and Concept of Operations Plans is being developed, along with Implementation and Training plans. Nor-Cal regional workshops and an Annual Stakeholders' conference is also planned. Year two funding is anticipated in the near future. This funding will be utilized for the purchase of regional, standardized equipment. For additional information, contact Dominic Yin at: [Dominic.D.Yin@sfgov.org](mailto:Dominic.D.Yin@sfgov.org)

## National Priority: Enhance Cyberscurity



Recognizing that cybersecurity and election security are vitally important components to the safety of the American public, the FY 20 UASI grant guidelines included the requirement for a National Priority project to address it. Since many municipalities in the Bay Area do not have

designated information security or cybersecurity teams, the UASI, in conjunction with the NCRIC, will work to build regional capabilities. The purchase of information sharing tools, the hiring of analysts and the conduct of regional exercises will also assist our stakeholders.

To ensure the security of the 2020 election cycle, the NCRIC participated in 400 cyber briefings for our regional partners to explain potential threats. Although, in the days leading up to the election, there were a number of cyberattacks from foreign actors, there was no impact on the election process itself. By all government reports, the 2020 election was the most secure in history.

### Discover these new Cybersecurity Resources!

[Cyber Toolkit Executive Summary](#): Introduces and describes the contents of the Cyber Toolkit and explains the relationships between the plan templates and other related planning efforts.

[Technology Recovery Plan Template](#): Identifies priorities, strategies, and resources that your organization/jurisdiction can use when recovering from cyber incidents.

[Cyber Incident Response Plan Template](#): Provides guidance and structure so your organization/jurisdiction can develop a clear, actionable plan that can be quickly implemented in response to an actual or suspected cyber incident.

[Cyber Framework](#): A Regional Cyber Incident Response Framework will assist organizations/jurisdictions in strengthening their cyber incident response capabilities, engaging in county-wide/operational area cyber incident response efforts, and building a region-wide cyber incident response capability.

# Bay Area UASI Updates

## **BATEP Presents: Psychological First Aid for Front Line Workers**

Between the extensive wildfires and the COVID-19 pandemic, we have all endured – and continue to cope with - unprecedented stresses. It's easy to feel burned out and overwhelmed. Stay tuned for a series of 4 webinars on Psychological First Aid (PFA) Skills. You will leave each webinar with specific, concrete, practical skills to use immediately during crises and in daily life. For 2021, the Bay Area Training and Exercise Program (BATEP) also plans to conduct almost 150 training classes, including classes that were postponed from 2020. Exercises planned for the 3rd and 4th quarter of 2021 include: a Public Safety drill, a series of public safety tabletop exercises, and the Golden Eagle Critical Transportation Functional Exercise with a full-scale C-POD component.

## **Bay Area UASI Regional Digital Presence Enhancements**

The Bay Area UASI Management Team has released a Request for Proposal (RFP) seeking a vendor to review our current digital presence and provide enterprise level (20k+stakeholders) digital presence solutions. The request seeks a review of how we utilize our website, social media, customer relations management, learning management, grants management and other digital platforms to interact with their stakeholders. Further, we want them to diagram our programs, analyze how these programs interconnect with each other, and define the tools and strategies necessary to achieve our organizational mission. Last, we want the vendor to conduct a needs assessment to determine the most appropriate way to integrate our digital presence with our organization's goals and objectives. More information will be provided as we move forward with this process.

## **Bay Area Training & Exercise Program**

**Featured upcoming virtual free courses for the spring include:**

- (02/08/2021-02/12/2021) Recovery from Disaster - The Local Community Role (G-205) Certified Cyber Security Awareness
- (02/16/2021-02/18/2021) ICS/EOC Interface (G-191) & EOC Management and Operations (G-775)
- (03/09/2021-03/10/2021) EOC Action Planning (G626E)
- (03/11/2021-03/11/2021) Incident Command System (ICS 402)
- (03/15/2021-03/19/2021) Recovery from Disaster - The Local Community Role (G-205)
- (04/20/2021-04/21/2021) EOC Action Planning (G626E)
- (04/22/2021-04/22/2021): Incident Command System (ICS402)

For more information on the Bay Area UASI Training and Exercise Program, or to browse and register for courses, please visit [www.batep.org](http://www.batep.org)

## **Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention (TVTP) Program**

The region's Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention Program (TVTP) grant has begun working with schools and houses of worship to develop four (4) projects: a Training and Awareness Raising project, a Youth Resilience Program to leverage and build upon the work of Sonoma County's Community Matters' Safe School Ambassador program, a Threat Assessment project that utilizes and expands upon San Mateo's existing, "School Safety Initiative", and a Behavioral Analysis Training project designed to enhance capabilities of staff within high schools and houses of worship to identify the non-verbal behavior of individuals mobilizing or radicalizing to violence. Program Manager Jodi Traversaro leads the project. She can be reached at: [Jodi.Traversaro@sfgov.org](mailto:Jodi.Traversaro@sfgov.org)

# Compliance Corner & Management Team

## FY21 UASI Project Proposal Process

During the month of January, all hubs met and prioritized their FY21 projects. Until the Notice of Funding Opportunity is released, we will not know the exact amount of funding allocated to the Bay Area. If there are any changes to the funding amount, we will work with the prioritized lists. These prioritized projects will be presented to the Approval Authority in March 2021.

## Compliance Corner:



Changes to the US' threat profile are constantly being evaluated by DHS. Based on these evaluations, four identified national priorities: cyber threats, threats to soft targets and crowded places, threats to our democratic election process and threats from new and emerging technologies, have been identified as posing the greatest risk to our nation and must be addressed.



As a result, for the first time, the FY 20 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) required that recipients address these four National Priorities with HSGP funds. Further, the NOFO required that each of the four priorities be allocated a 5% portion, for a total of 20% of the grant award. DHS further indicated that the process had a competitive portion to it and that applicants should submit applications exceeding their target allocation by 15%. Applications were to be reviewed by subject matter experts in each area to determine effectiveness. Since this application process occurred during the initial stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, DHS reconsidered and awarded the higher grant award amount to each applicant.

For the FY 21 grant year, DHS has recently announced that the four national priorities will remain the same, but that the percentage required for each project is increasing to 7.5%, or a total of 30% of the grant award.

Since 30% is a large percentage of the potential grant award, the UASI Management Team will be working with all the FY 21 applications to determine if they can be used in one of the four priority projects. Going forward, there may also be changes to the FY 22 grant cycle to ensure that projects meet changing grant requirements. If you have questions about the FY 21 grant cycle, please contact Mary Landers at: [Mary.Landers@sfgov.org](mailto:Mary.Landers@sfgov.org).

## Upcoming Events

### FEBRUARY

- 02/03: Cyber Resilience Work Group meeting
- 02/11: Emergency Management Work Group Quarterly meeting
- 02/19: ABAHO PHP/ BAMPWG Joint meeting

### WMARCH

- 03/11: Approval Authority meeting
- 03/17: Critical Transportation Planning Toolkit- Training Workshop

## Management Team Updates

There have been several additions to the Management Team! To the fiscal staff we have added Karen Tsang as a Sr. Admin Analyst for the Bay Area T&E program and promoted Ethan Baker to the same position for the Securing the Cities (STC) Program. On the programmatic side, we have hired retired SFPD Capt. Dominic Yin as the STC Program Manager and retired Alameda County Fire Chief Dave Rocha as the Project Manager for the region's CBRNE program. Additionally, we have hired Wendy Suhr as the T&E project manager. Welcome!