



Executive Director's
Report to the

Board of Harbor Commissioners

DATE: NOVEMBER 8, 2021

FROM: PORT POLICE

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. _____ - MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES MAYOR'S OFFICE AND THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES HARBOR DEPARTMENT FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE LOS ANGELES/LONG BEACH URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE REGION, SECURING THE CITIES PROGRAM

SUMMARY:

Staff requests to accept and enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of Los Angeles Mayor's Office (Mayor's Office) for the purpose of participating in the Los Angeles/Long Beach (LA/LB) Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Region, Securing the Cities (STC) Program. This program is a part of the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS), overseen by its Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO) designed to enhance the nation's ability to detect and prevent a radiological or nuclear attack in cities facing the highest risk.

The Mayor's Office has been awarded grant funds and will work with DNDO to oversee the cooperative efforts of program participants in developing and enhancing the LA/LB UASI region's nuclear and radiological detection and interdiction capabilities. The DNDO will conduct training and exercises for participants and award annual grant funds to the Mayor's Office for use in the STC Program. DNDO requires program participants to execute an MOU to memorialize each participant's commitment to the program. The 10-year performance period is September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2030. The proposed action does not require funding by the Harbor Department.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Harbor Commissioners:

1. Find that the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is administratively and categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Article II Section 2(f) and Article III Class 1(6) and Class 6(2) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines;
2. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding and any subsequent amendments adding participants and extending the term for the participation in the Securing the Cities Program between the Mayor's Office and the Harbor Department;

SUBJECT: MOU FOR THE PARTICIPATION IN THE LOS ANGELES/LONG BEACH URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE REGION, SECURING THE CITIES PROGRAM

3. Authorize the Executive Director to execute and the Board Secretary to attest to future amendments of this MOU for the Securing the Cities Grant on behalf of the Board; subject to the approval of the City Attorney as to form and legality; and
4. Adopt Resolution No. _____.

DISCUSSION:

Background/Context: Through the competitive grant process, the Mayor's Office of Homeland Security and Public Safety submitted an application to the DHS DNDO an application for the STC Program. The City of Los Angeles received notification from the DNDO for the STC program of the application approval, and the grant was awarded. The grant requires an annual reapplication to the DNDO by the Mayor's Office to qualify and remain in the STC program.

The STC program assists high-risk urban areas in developing and enhancing capabilities to detect, report, and prevent the unauthorized presence and use of radiological and nuclear materials. DHS has agreed to collaborate with the Mayor's Office to expand the program to the LA/LB UASI region to develop a structure of law enforcement and first responder organizations to identify, prevent, and respond to potential nuclear and radiological threats. The Mayor's Office will oversee the cooperative efforts of program participants in developing and enhancing the broader LA/LB UASI region's nuclear and radiological detection and interdiction capabilities. DNDO will assist in the effort by conducting training and exercises for the participants and by awarding annual STC grant funds to the Mayor's Office for use in the program.

Program participants include the City of Los Angeles' Police, Fire, Airport, and Harbor Departments, and other regional public safety and health agencies. DNDO requires participants to execute an MOU to memorialize their commitment to participating in the program. The proposed MOU requires each participant to:

- Designate a representative for program meetings and activities, and participate in accordance with each participant's policies, procedures, and protocols;
- Assist in identifying current needs for establishing a radiological and nuclear detection program in the LA/LB UASI region;
- Collaborate in developing and drafting protocols, procedures, plans, and concepts of operation to enhance data collection and sharing capabilities among participants, and coordinate enforcement, operations and responses to a radiological and nuclear incident in the LA/LB UASI region;

SUBJECT: MOU FOR THE PARTICIPATION IN THE LOS ANGELES/LONG BEACH URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE REGION, SECURING THE CITIES PROGRAM

- Collect, share, and analyze intelligence, information, and resources to predict, prevent, respond to, adjudicate, report, and archive the illicit use, storage, or movement of radiological materials in the LA/LB UASI region and the Orange County region;
- Attend training and exercises;
- Comply with any mutual aid agreements and work with established partnerships between Federal, State, and local agencies to support program operations and mutual aid;
- Provide assistance in the establishment of a dedicated STC command and control center at the Los Angeles Police Department's Real-Time Analysis and Critical Response Division; and
- Deploy equipment purchased by STC grant funds in a manner agreed to by program participants and the Mayor's Office.

The Mayor's Office will serve as fiduciary agent and the lead agency for all fiscal matters, as well as for the procurement of all equipment and services. The proposed MOU does not result in any financial obligation to the Harbor Department. The term of this MOU has a not-to-exceed date of August 31, 2030, and becomes effective upon execution of the participant. The Mayor's Office will execute the MOU subsequent to Board approval.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The proposed action is approval of a MOU with the Mayor's Office to participate in the LA/LB UASI Region, STC Program, which is an administrative activity; an activity involving the addition of safety, security, health, or environmental protection devices for use in conjunction with existing structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment; and an activity involving basic data collection. Therefore, the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is administratively and categorically exempt from the requirements of CEQA in accordance with Article II Section 2(f) and Article III Class 1(6) and Class 6(2) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Approval of the proposed MOU will not have a financial impact and will not require funding by the Harbor Department.

DATE: NOVEMBER 8 2021

PAGE 4 OF 4

SUBJECT: MOU FOR THE PARTICIPATION IN THE LOS ANGELES/LONG BEACH URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE REGION, SECURING THE CITIES PROGRAM

CITY ATTORNEY:

The Office of the City Attorney has reviewed and approved the proposed MOU as to form and legality.

TRANSMITTAL(S):

1. Memorandum of Understanding

FIS Approval: _____
CA Approval: _____



MICHAEL HYAMS
Deputy Chief of Police



THOMAS E. GAZSI
Chief of Public Safety and
Emergency Management

APPROVED:

EUGENE D. SEROKA
Executive Director

TEG:JT:rkg
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