



AGENDA

ST. LOUIS AREA REGIONAL RESPONSE SYSTEM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Friday, May 17, 2024– 9:00 A.M.
MEETING IS VIRTUAL ONLY

<https://meet.goto.com/MeetingHost4/starrsbod05172024>

1. CALL TO ORDER BY SARAH RUSSELL
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, FROM THE MARCH 2024 MEETING
3. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - a. Program Updates SAMANTHA LEWIS
 - b. Subcommittee Reports SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRS
4. ACTION ITEMS
 - a. Approval of Nominations KEVIN SCHEIBE
 - b. Regional Security Expenditures SAMANTHA LEWIS
 - c. UASI FY2024 Grant Application SAMANTHA LEWIS
5. OTHER BUSINESS
6. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

**The next STARRS Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 11, 2024.
The meeting location is anticipated to be the SLFD HQ.**

EWG is committed to ensuring that all meetings are both ADA and LEP accessible. To request a reasonable accommodation for this meeting please contact EWG's Title VI Coordinator at least 48 business hours prior to the meeting at [\(314\) 421-4220](tel:3144214220) or [\(618\) 274-2750](tel:6182742750) or titlevi@ewgateway.org.

**STARRS BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES
March 12, 2024**

The meeting of the STARRS Board of Directors was called to via in-person & virtual conference call, with those in attendance check-marked:

CATEGORY A

- Abe Cook
- Frederick Patterson
- Herb Simmons
- Joann Leykam
- Michele Ryan
- Ryan Weber

CATEGORY B

- Barry Johnston
- Bryan Whitaker
- George Koranyi
- Jani Albright
- Kevin Scheibe
- Sarah Russell
- Warren Robinson

VOTING CAT. C

- Brian Gettemeier
- Dennis Jenkerson
- Greg Brown
- Jen Smith
- Jeremy Hollrah
- Kurt Frisz
- Nick Allen
- Stephanie Norton
- Zach Koch

FUSION CENTER

- Benjamin Granda

HCC

- Nick Kohlberg

MASS FATALITY

- Kelly Rogers

NON-VOTING CAT. C

- Gerald Lohr
- Jocelyn Evans
- John Nowak
- Josh Wilderson
- Kyle Foerst
- Matt Tobben
- Mike Arras
- Kyle Foerst
- Sam Stephens

NON-VOTING EX OFFICIO

- Jim Wild

ATTENDANCE:

Also in attendance were East-West Gateway Council of Governments/STARRS staff including Samantha Lewis, Leah Watkins, Brian Marler, & Jim Farmer (MO SEMA).

Members excused in advance from this month's Board meeting include: Warren Robinson, Sam Stephens, & Gerald Lohr.

CALL TO ORDER

Sarah Russell called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM. Attendance was recorded by sign-in and virtual meeting attendance list. A quorum was confirmed by Brian Marler & Leah Watkins.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Sarah Russell requested approval of the February 2024 minutes which was motioned to approve by Joann Leykam and was seconded by Bryan Whitaker. The motion was carried

unanimously and was approved at 9:05 AM.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

PROGRAM UPDATES

Sam shared a UASI update for FY 2024, explaining that the process was held up still due to the Federal budget and a UASI NOFO may not drop until June or July. The RCPG program will hold an April 23rd tabletop exercise on medical supply disruption. We are also finalizing some additional training on supply disruption.

Hunter-Seeker exercise documentation has been sent out widely for the multi-day exercise.

There is a meeting on Monday for the Dense Urban Terrain exercise planning group, in addition to smaller group meetings associated with it.

Phase one of the IPPW completed recently, and additional phases of the IPP process are underway now with conversations and review of priorities. Next steps include surveys going out and reviews of the draft IPP by the T&E committee and others.

The Radiation Surge Annex of the HPP is being finalized now, with additional surge annexes getting underway soon, in addition to the upcoming Medical Response Surge Exercise (MRSE).

Sam also shared that STARRS made some job offers recently and is hoping to introduce additional STARRS staff at the next meeting.

Sam then reintroduced discussion on the creation of STARRS Board Ad-Hoc Committees to review the STARRS By-Laws and to look into regional sustainment priorities.

Sarah Russell requested motions to create a STARRS By-Laws adhoc committee. A motion was made by Fred Patterson and was seconded. The motion passed without opposition. A motion was then made by George Koranyi to create a STARRS regional sustainment priority committee and was seconded. That motion also passed without opposition. Sam shared that she would send out emails to create membership lists for the two new adhoc committees.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Michele Ryan shared that the Emergency Management subcommittee is meeting Friday to talk about a 5-year strategic plan for the group. Jeremy Hollrah shared that the EMS subcommittee will meet soon as and is looking at adding additional members soon. Nick Kohlberg shared that the Healthcare Coalition met in February and adopted a strategic plan. They meet again in April to look at the upcoming HPP workplan and exercises. Nick Allen shared that the Healthcare subcommittee meets this week and that they are also participating in upcoming exercise and workplan meetings, and that MRSE planning continues, and that a program to expand use of radios is also underway, and the use of the HSIN platform. They are also looking at expanding engagement. Kurt Frisz shared an

update from the Law Enforcement subcommittee. Kelly Rogers shared that the Mass Fatality group met in February and set future meetings dates.

ACTION ITEMS

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Kevin Scheibe shared information related to STARRS subcommittee membership additions and removals as described in the nomination memo. Kurt Frisz motioned and was seconded. The motion carried and was approved.

REGIONAL EXPENDITURES

Samantha Lewis provided a summary of regional expenditures for the month. Procurements include renewal of positions at the St. Louis Fusion Center, including the Intelligence Analyst position and the Cybersecurity Coordinator position. Additionally, a Mass Spectrometer Chemical Detection System was also presented for procurement. The total regional expenditure under the UASI grant for these purchases would not exceed \$312,700. A motion was made to accept the expenditures by Bryan Whitaker and was seconded. The motion was passed without opposition.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was presented.

NEXT MEETING & ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the STARRS Board of Directors is scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, 2024. A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:19 AM.

Sarah Russell



Memo to: Board of Directors
From: STARRS Staff
Subject: Nomination of Committee Appointments
Date: May 14, 2024

The Nominating Committee has approved the following subcommittee nominations, offering the following for board consideration and approval.

SUB-COMMITTEES

The Nominating Committee recommends the following additions to STARRS subcommittees:

- **Healthcare Subcommittee** – Andrea Pye, Mercy Health
- **Healthcare Subcommittee** – Derek McDonald, Dept. of Veterans Affairs
- **Healthcare Subcommittee** – Hailey Klein, Specialty Surgery of St. Louis
- **Healthcare Subcommittee** – Nicolette Newton, SSM Health
- **Healthcare Subcommittee** – Scott Service, BJC Christian Hospital
- **Law Enforcement Subcommittee** – Norm Mann, St. Louis Co Police Department
- **Public Health Subcommittee** – Anne-Marie Denny, Jefferson County Health Dept.

The Nominating Committee recommends the following removals from STARRS subcommittees:

- **Healthcare Subcommittee** – Brody Eller, South City Hospital
- **Healthcare Subcommittee** – Ntasiah Shaw, St. Louis Co Dept of Public Health
- **Healthcare Subcommittee** – Scott Austermann, BJC Progress West Hospital
- **Mass Fatality Subcommittee** – Brandon Crews, St. Louis County Medical Examiner
- **USAR Subcommittee** – Matt Tobben, Union Fire Protection District

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends the Board of Directors approve the Nominating Committee recommendations.



Memo to: Board of Directors
From: Staff
Subject: Regional Security Expenditures
Date: May 10, 2024

Staff is requesting authorization to expend funds in support of regional security that will improve the region's disaster preparedness and response capabilities. Funding will come from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant program as well as STARRS Hospital Donation funds. Attachment A summarizes the purchases, totaling \$303,745.

ST. LOUIS FUSION CENTER and STARRS:

AT&T Mobility FirstNET Services - Staff is seeking approval for the renewal of AT&T Mobility FirstNET services for the St. Louis Fusion Center. The FirstNET voice/data network is a Federal government initiative to provide a dedicated mobile voice/data network for first responders such as law enforcement, fire, EMS, and emergency management. As FirstNET is dedicated to first responder usage, FirstNET has priority over all other mobile phone users. FirstNET users have priority in mobile congestion scenario, and provides 5G connection speeds for data in the St. Louis region, which is imperative to the anti-terrorism functions of the St. Louis Fusion Center as staff must be reachable at all times to assist Federal, State and Local law enforcement entities with investigations and information / data collection and dissemination. The procurement includes the renewal of services for 24 months for seven (7) mobile phone devices and 13 hotspot devices, for an amount not to exceed \$22,000 from the UASI grant program.

In addition, Staff is requesting to renew the services for the six (6) FirstNET mobile phone devices currently utilized by STARRS staff. The devices allow STARRS staff to perform work-related functions away from the office environment, as they are able to utilize them in the field, when working from local Emergency Operations Centers, or performing duties outside of the region. The total cost for renewal of services for 24 months will not exceed \$8,250. Funding will come from STARRS Hospital Donation funds.

REGIONAL RESPONSE TEAMS:

Respiratory Equipment Masks for Law Enforcement - Staff is seeking approval to purchase quantity twenty (20) Avon FM54 respiratory equipment masks for the Franklin County Sheriff's Department. The masks provide protection against chemical and biological agents as well as toxic industrial materials with a chemical agent resistance of greater than 36 hours. In addition to offering respiratory protection, the masks allow tactical team members to communicate with each other during a response through electronics communications ports for integrated voice projection and radio communications. The total cost for twenty (20) respiratory equipment masks will not exceed \$38,495 from the UASI grant program.

Chemical Identification Analyzers for Hazardous Materials Response Teams – Staff is seeking to purchase quantity two (2) Thermo Scientific Gemini chemical identification analyzers for two (2) of the region's hazardous materials response teams, the City of St. Louis Fire Department and the St. Clair Special Emergency Services Association. The analyzers are able to identify a broad range of unknown chemicals and explosives in the field in a single instrument, assisting teams in executing missions and deployments in a safe and accurate manner. The total cost for two (2) chemical identification analyzers will not exceed \$235,000 from the UASI grant program.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Board approve the expenditure of funds as follows:

- for the renewal of FirstNet services for seven (7) mobile phone devices and 13 hotspot devices for 24 months for the St. Louis Fusion Center from AT&T Mobility FirstNET of Carol Stream, IL in an amount not to exceed \$22,000;
- for the purchase of 24 months of services for the six (6) FirstNET mobile devices utilized by STARRS Staff from AT&T Mobility FirstNET of Carol Stream, IL in an amount not to exceed \$8,250;
- for the purchase of quantity twenty (20) Avon FM54 respiratory equipment masks for the Franklin County Sheriff's Department from Con10gency Consulting of Selma, TX for an amount not to exceed \$38,495;
- for the purchase of two (2) Thermo Scientific Gemini chemical identification analyzers for the City of St. Louis Fire Department and St. Clair Special Emergency Services Association from Thermo Scientific of Tewksbury, MA for an amount not to exceed \$235,000;

for a total amount not to exceed \$295,495 from the UASI grant program, and \$8,250 from STARRS Hospital Donation funds.

ATTACHMENT A

**Expenditures for Equipment and Services
May 10, 2024**

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Jurisdiction/Agency</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Emergency Response Equipment & Software (UASI)				
AT&T Mobility FirstNET (Carol Stream, IL)	Fusion Center Services (mobile phone and hotspot devices)	Regional	various	\$22,000
AT&T Mobility FirstNET (Carol Stream, IL)	STARRS Mobile Phone Services	Regional	6	\$8,250
Con10gency Consulting (Selma, TX)	Respiratory Equipment Masks	Franklin County, MO	20	\$38,495
Thermo Scientific (Tewksbury, MA)	Chemical Identification Analyzers	City of St. Louis, MO, St. Clair County	2	\$235,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES				\$ 303,745

Total UASI Expenditures: \$295,495

Total STARRS Hospital Donation Fund Expenditures: \$8,250



Memo to: Board of Directors
From: STARRS Staff
Subject: FY2024 UASI Grant Application Recommendation
Date: May 14, 2024

The STARRS Finance Committee met on Thursday, May 9, 2024 to review proposed regional projects for funding allocations via the FY2024 UASI grant and available surplus funding from previous grant years.

STARRS Finance Committee is membership:

Chief Greg Brown
Abe Cook (*STARRS Board Executive Committee, Treasurer*)
Sgt. Ben Granda
Nick Kohlberg
Joann Leykam
Bryan Whitaker
Jim Wild (*Ex-Officio*)

After a thorough analysis & discussion, the STARRS Finance committee developed and voted to approve the attached funding allocations.

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends the Board of Directors approve the Finance Committee recommendations.

D. UASI FY 2024 FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

UASI FY 2024 Grant - Funding Summary

May 7, 2024

2024 UASI Grant - Total Award	\$3,410,728
Less State M&A (5%)	(\$170,536)
Less State, MIAC / KC / STL Fusion Center Collaboration	(\$18,000)
Available Funds	\$3,222,192
EWG Costs	
EWG M&A (5% of 3,240,192)	\$162,010
EWG Planning	\$650,000
Less EWG Total Costs	(\$812,010)
2024 Grant Funds Available for Projects	
	\$2,410,182
Project Awards	\$2,410,182
Remaining funds	\$0

LETPA & Nat'l Priority Areas	Required Minimums ¹		Project Recommendations	
	%	\$	\$	%
LETPA	35%	\$1,193,755	\$1,231,356	36.10%
National Priority Areas²				
Community Preparedness	0%	\$0	\$59,400	1.74%
Soft Targets	0%	\$0	\$487,189	14.28%
Information & Intelligence Sharing	0%	\$0	\$753,780	22.10%
Domestic Violent Extremism	0%	\$0	\$118,200	3.47%
Election Security	3%	\$102,322	\$115,000	3.37%
Cybersecurity	0%	\$0	\$455,800	13.36%
Subtotal National Priority Areas	30%	\$102,322	\$1,989,369	58.33%
Total LETPA & Nat'l Priority Areas³		\$1,296,077	\$3,220,725	
Enduring Needs	0%	\$0	\$420,813	12.34%

¹ - Required minimums are based on the ~\$3.4M total grant award for the St. Louis Urban Area.

² - In the 2024 grant, there are no minimum spends for each NPA except Election Security; however, we are required to expend at least 30% across all 6 NPA. This means that at least 27% has to be allocated to the 5 non-election security NPAs.

³ - Total recommendation is higher than the project awarded amount because projects may be counted in both LETPA and the National Priority Areas.

D. UASI FY 2024 FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

UASI FY 2024 Grant - Project Applications & Funding Recommendations										
May 7, 2024										
Projects by National Priority Area	Score*	2024 LETPA (35% min. = \$1,193,754.80)	Amount Requested	Funding Recommendations			Total Funding	Total Amount Not Funded	Recommended Priorities for Future Washout	Notes for Finance Committee
				Amount Recommended	2024 UASI Funding	2021 & 2022 Washout				
Community Preparedness										
HCC Access & Functional Needs (AFN) Assessment	11	0%	\$0	\$120,000	\$0	\$0	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$80,000	incorporate into previously funded 2023 PH AFN project +\$40k from FY2023 grant washout State will supply this training, no need to fund it regionally
PH Chemical & Biological Threat Workshop & TTX	9	0%	\$0	\$59,400	\$59,400	\$59,400	\$0	\$59,400	\$0	
SLARCC CERT Train-the-Trainer Program (STRIKE THIS FROM LIST)	—	0%	\$0	\$10,400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,400	
Subtotal Community Preparedness			\$0	\$189,800	\$59,400	\$59,400	\$40,000	\$99,400	\$90,400	
Soft Targets										
LE Consolidated Night Vision Gear Sustainment	14	100%	\$221,376	\$282,064	\$221,376	\$221,376	\$0	\$221,376	\$60,688	priority #4 Fund 4 FLIRs per team, & 4 binocs instead
LE Tactical Operations Vehicle (Jefferson Co)	5	100%	\$0	\$136,610	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$136,610	single agency request
HAZMAT Consolidated Team Sustainment	13	0%	\$0	\$220,950	\$145,680	\$135,813	\$9,867	\$145,680	\$75,270	priority #2 partial fulfillment with future washout to augment?
Metro Air Support Camera	14	100%	\$0	\$550,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$550,000	prohibitively expensive given available grant funds
Metro Air Support Computers	14	100%	\$130,000	\$130,000	\$130,000	\$130,000	\$0	\$130,000	\$0	
Metro Air Support Radios	15	100%	\$0	\$210,000	\$0	\$0	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$140,000	fund 1 additional radio, MAS agencies will fund the other 2 internally?
Subtotal Soft Targets			\$351,376	\$1,529,624	\$497,056	\$487,189	\$79,867	\$567,056	\$962,568	

D. UASI FY 2024 FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

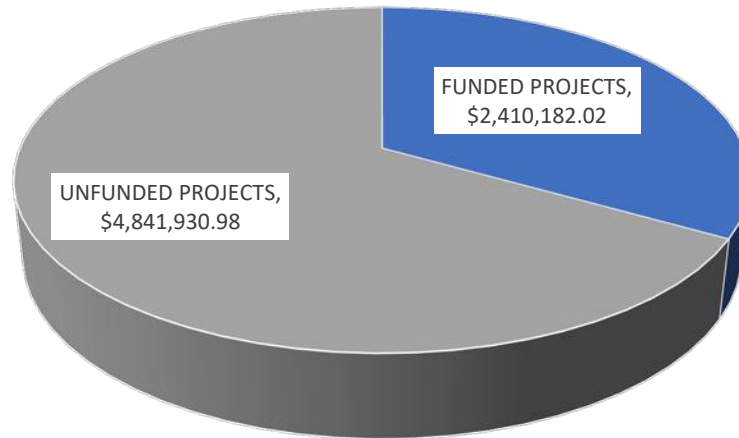
UASI FY 2024 Grant - Project Applications & Funding Recommendations										
May 7, 2024										
Projects by National Priority Area	Score*	2024 LETPA (35% min. = \$1,193,754.80)	Amount Requested	Funding Recommendations				Total Amount Not Funded	Recommended Priorities for Future Washout	Notes for Finance Committee
				Amount Recomeded	2024 UASI Funding	2021 & 2022 Washout	Total Funding			
Information & Intelligence Sharing										
Fusion Center Sustainment	15	100%	\$753,780	\$791,780	\$753,780	\$753,780	\$0	\$753,780	\$38,000	priority #6 <i>requirement of the grant, must be funded.</i>
Subtotal Information & Intelligence Sharing			\$753,780	\$791,780	\$753,780	\$753,780	\$0	\$753,780	\$38,000	
Domestic Violent Extremism										
Regional DVE Initiative	15	100%	\$118,200	\$118,200	\$118,200	\$118,200	\$0	\$118,200	\$0	
Subtotal Domestic Violent and Extremism			\$118,200	\$0	\$118,200	\$118,200	\$0	\$118,200	\$0	
Election Security (3% minimum = \$102,000)										
Regional Election Security Initiative	4	0%	\$0	\$115,000	\$115,000	\$115,000	\$0	\$115,000	\$0	<i>requirement of the grant, must be funded.</i>
Subtotal Election Security			\$0	\$115,000	\$115,000	\$115,000	\$0	\$115,000	\$0	
Cybersecurity										
Regional Cybersecurity Initiative	14	0%	\$0	\$511,300	\$455,800	\$455,800	\$0	\$455,800	\$55,500	priority #6 <i>staff freed to fund beyond that level</i>
Subtotal Cybersecurity			\$511,300	\$455,800	\$455,800	\$455,800	\$0	\$455,800	\$55,500	

D. UASI FY 2024 FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

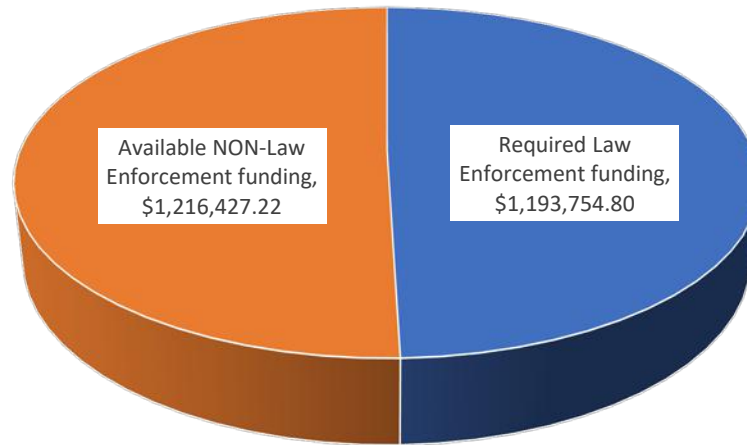
UASI FY 2024 Grant - Project Applications & Funding Recommendations											
May 7, 2024											
Projects by National Priority Area	Score*	2024 LETPA (35% min. = \$1,193,754.80)	Amount Requested	Funding Recommendations				Total Amount Not Funded	Recommended Priorities for Future Washout	Notes for Finance Committee	
				Amount Recommended	2024 UASI Funding	2021 & 2022 Washout	Total Funding				
Enduring Needs											
Training & Exercise Program Sustainment	15	10%	\$8,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$0	\$80,000	\$0		T&E funds remain from previous grant years
EMS Training Moulage Supply Cache	8	0%	\$0	\$37,550	\$0	\$0	\$37,550	\$37,550	\$0		washout candidate due to simplicity of procurement, low cost
EMS Respiratory Protection Cache	7	0%	\$0	\$96,350	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000	\$46,350	priority #3	partial fulfillment with future washout to augment/complete?
USAR Consolidated Team Sustainment	11	0%	\$0	\$542,914	\$290,813	\$290,813	\$0	\$290,813	\$252,101	priority #5	partial fulfillment with future washout to augment?
USAR Consolidated Training Sustainment	11	0%	\$0	\$260,000	\$0	\$0	\$139,867	\$139,867	\$120,133	priority #1	partial fulfillment for a single class with washout funds
USAR Consolidated Water Rescue Sustainment	9	0%	\$0	\$479,595	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$479,595		prohibitively expensive given available grant funds
USAR Utility Terrain Vehicles	8	0%	\$0	\$190,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$190,000		not present in the 2023 THIRA/SPR, unsupportable
St. Clair County Mobile Command Center	2	0%	\$0	\$900,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$900,000		single entity request, low regionality, prohibitively expensive, low terror nexus
HAZMAT Decon Vehicle (Jefferson Co)	7	0%	\$0	\$1,800,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,800,000		prohibitively expensive, single agency request
Subtotal Enduring Needs			\$8,000	\$4,386,409	\$420,813	\$420,813	\$177,417	\$598,230	\$3,788,179		
Totals			\$1,231,356	\$7,523,913	\$2,420,049	\$2,410,182	\$297,285	\$2,707,467	\$4,934,646		
checks						\$2,410,182.02	\$297,285				
						\$0.00	(\$0.00)				

TOTAL REQUESTS vs AVAILABLE FUNDING

- FUNDED PROJECT
- UNFUNDED PRC

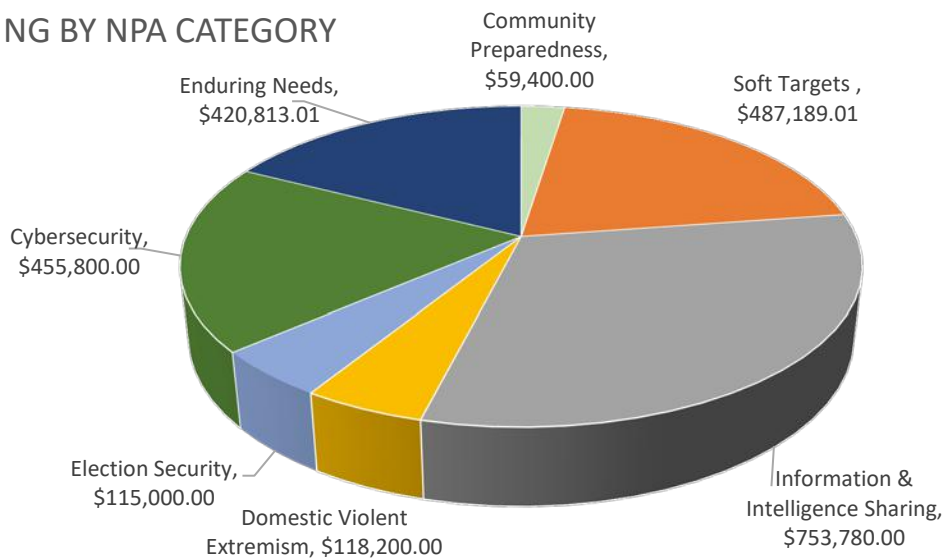


REQUIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT vs NON-Law Enforcement PROJECTS



- Required Law Enforcement funding
- Available NON-Law Enforcement funding

FUNDING BY NPA CATEGORY



STARRS INVESTMENT RECOMMENDATION UASI FY2024

May 7, 2024



Executive Summary

In FY 2024, the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Grant will enhance regional preparedness and capabilities by funding high-threat, high-density urban areas.

Consistent with previous grant guidance, dedicated funding is provided for law enforcement and terrorism prevention throughout the country to prepare for, prevent and respond to pre-operational activity and other crimes that are precursors or indicators of terrorist activity.

DHS (the Department of Homeland Security) continues to mandate specific National Priorities and to conduct increasingly thorough reviews of every project to ensure they align with the anti-terrorism purpose of the grant. Accordingly, all STARRS projects are scored against:

1. their nexus toward terrorism,
2. their required alignment with the region's Threat Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment (THIRA) and Stakeholder Preparedness Reports (SPR),
3. their support and compliance with requirements specified in the grant NOFO, and
4. their level of support and focus toward building a collaborative regional response capability for the St. Louis region.

Projects that score poorly in these four categories are unlikely to be funded by this grant. As DHS removes requested funding from low-scoring projects, it is the intention of STARRS to not include these projects in our UASI application as it will have a direct impact on our available grant funding levels.

DHS has identified five National Priority Areas (NPAs) that grant projects should focus on. This year, for the first time, only one of the NPAs has a required minimum spend. National Priority Areas include Soft Targets and Crowded Places, Intelligence and Information Sharing, Domestic Violent Extremism, Community Preparedness, Cybersecurity, and Elections Security. A minimum of 30% across all NPAs is required, including the required 3% specifically in Election Security.

In addition to the NPAs, the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities (LETPA) requirement for the grant has risen to 35% of grant funding for FY2024. Thirty-five percent of everything funded by the grant must benefit and focus on Law Enforcement.

Based on these rules set forth by DHS STARRS staff has developed the following recommendation for project funding by the UASI FY2024 grant. Specific details on the requirements of Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) funding are available in the DHS Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) document. A thorough review of that document is recommended prior to any final decision on modifications to this STARRS recommendation, especially if changes involve low scoring projects, as a loss of regional grant funding may occur.

UASI FY 2024 NATIONAL PRIORITIES & MINIMUM SPENDS

For FY 2024 there are six (6) National Priorities for Homeland Security (ie, UASI) grant funding. Only one of these National Priorities for grant funding has a minimum amount this year. The National Priorities require a minimum of 30% across all NPAs, including the required 3% specifically in Election Security.

Community Preparedness (0% minimum)

Projects associated with Community Preparedness and Resilience often focus on Community Organizations, nonprofit or other providers of essential services. Projects can also be associated with community emergency response teams/volunteers or with emergency management services focusing on cultural competency, accessibility and inclusion and equity for underserved communities. Long-term recovery has also been a focus in recent years.

Soft Targets & Crowded Places (0% minimum)

Projects associated with Soft Targets and Crowded Places generally focus on law enforcement or other special team response to attacks by terrorists or other violent extremists, with a focus on incidents/events with accessibility to a large number of potential targets. Soft Target projects generally have a very high nexus to terrorism.

Information & Intelligence Sharing (0% minimum)

Projects associated with Information & Intelligence Sharing will generally rely on access to, analysis of, and the timely sharing of information that might mitigate a wide variety of threats. A Fusion Center project (always associated with this NPA) is a required component of our grant application.

Domestic Violent Extremism (0% minimum)

Projects associated with Domestic Violent Extremism will focus on threats associated with extremist activists or ideologically motivated lone/small group actors seeking to capitalize on social and political tensions. Often social media and other modern technologies are used to spread disinformation and misinformation to larger audiences.

Election Security (3% minimum)

Projects associated with Elections Security will focus on securing the vital election infrastructure of the region and helping ensure its continued operation in the face of threats & harassment of election officials, staff, threats to election infrastructure and elections free of foreign influence. This is the only required NPA for FY2024.

Cybersecurity (0% minimum)

Projects associated with Cybersecurity will focus on issues of cyber vulnerabilities or weaknesses that can disrupt our way of life, with a special focus on protection of critical infrastructure and cyberterrorism. The Nationwide CyberSecurity Review (NCSR) process is also a grant requirement associated with this National Priority. As a National Priority, this project is associated with the Cybersecurity Initiative project operated out of the Fusion Center.

In addition to the above National Priorities, there is an additional category for Non-National Priority projects, and that category is:

Enduring Need (0% minimum)

Projects associated with Enduring Need will often focus on effective Planning, Training/Awareness, Exercises, or Equipment purchases. Enduring Need is often the catch-all for projects that do not fit well into one of the National Priority areas. Regional (non-law enforcement based) Special Teams such as Hazardous Materials, Urban Search & Rescue, Mass Fatality, and others often have projects here. Often the total amount of requests for Enduring Need projects will exceed all of the National Priority projects. National Priority projects often receive priority over Enduring Need projects for funding, since they are a requirement of the grant.

|| UASI FY 2024 FEMA EVALUATION CRITERIA

FEMA will evaluate the FY 2024 HSGP applications for completeness, adherence to programmatic guidelines, and anticipated effectiveness of the proposed investments. FEMA's review will include verification that each IJ and project:

- Aligns with at least one core capability identified in the goal;
- Demonstrates how investments support closing capability gaps or sustaining capabilities identified in the THIRA/SPR process; and
- Supports a NIMS-typed resource and whether those assets are deployable/shareable to support emergency or disaster operations per existing EMAC agreements.

In addition to the above, FEMA will evaluate whether proposed projects are:

- both feasible and effective at reducing the risks for which the project was designed; and
- able to be fully completed within the three-year period of performance. FEMA will use the information provided in the application and after the submission of the first BSIR to determine the feasibility and effectiveness of a grant project.

To that end, IJs should include:

- An explanation of how the proposed project(s) will achieve objectives as identified in the SPR, including expected long-term impact where applicable, and which core capability gap(s) it helps to close and how;
- A summary of the status of planning and design efforts accomplished to date (e.g., included in a capital improvement plan); and
- A project schedule with clear milestones.

Criteria	Weight	FEMA Evaluation Criteria & Weighting <i>(The following criteria has been pulled directly from FEMA's Notice of Funding Opportunity)</i>
Investment Strategy	30%	Proposals will be evaluated based on the quality and extent to which applicants describe an effective strategy that demonstrates that proposed projects support the program objective of preventing, preparing for, protecting against, and responding to acts of terrorism, to meet its target capabilities, and otherwise reduce the overall risk to the high-risk urban area, the state, or the Nation.
Impact/ Outcomes	30%	Proposals will be evaluated on how this investment helps the jurisdiction close capability gaps identified in its SPR and addresses the relevant National Priority Area outlined in this NOFO. Further, proposals will be evaluated on their identification and estimated improvement of core capability(ies), the associated standardized target(s) that align with their proposed investment, and the ways in which the applicant will measure and/or evaluate improvement.
Collaboration	30%	Proposals will be evaluated based on the degree to which the proposal adequately details how the recipient will use investments and other means to overcome existing logistical, technological, legal, policy, and other impediments to collaborating, networking, sharing information, cooperating, and fostering a culture of national preparedness with federal, state, tribal, and local governments, as well as other regional and nonprofit partners. Collaboration should improve efforts to prevent, prepare for, protect against, and respond to acts of terrorism, to meet target capabilities, support the national security mission of DHS and other federal agencies, and to otherwise reduce the overall risk to the high-risk urban area, the state, or the Nation. In evaluating applicants under this factor FEMA will consider the information provided by the applicant and may also consider relevant information from other sources.
Budget	10%	Proposals will be evaluated based on the extent to which applicants describe a budget plan for each investment demonstrating how the applicant will maximize cost effectiveness of grant expenditures.
Past Performance	Considered	Proposals will be evaluated based on the applicants demonstrated capability to execute the proposed investments. In evaluating applicants under this factor FEMA will consider the information provided by the applicant and may also consider relevant information from other sources.

STARRS PROJECT SCORING GUIDE

SCORING CRITERIA

STARRS grant professionals performed a detailed analysis of the submitted projects in order to provide recommendations on what best meets the FY 2024 UASI Grant Guidance, including the mandatory National Priority & grant requirements and set-asides. Past performance by agencies associated with a project is a consideration in the overall grant application development process, but does not directly affect the scores. The following scoring guide was used to grade all projects. Each line item is worth up to one (1) point. A score of fifteen (15) is a perfect score.

Investment Strategy	1.	Does the project proposal prevent a threatened or actual act of terrorism?	
	2.	Does the project proposal prepare for all hazards and threats, while expanding the nexus to terrorism preparedness?	
	3.	Does the project proposal protect citizens, residents, visitors, and assets against the greatest threats and hazards related to acts of terrorism?	
	4.	Does the project proposal respond quickly and equitably to save lives, protect property and the environment, and meet basic human needs in the aftermath of an act of terrorism or other catastrophic incidents?	
	5.	Does the project proposal assist in meet specific grant requirements (i.e. Fusion Center, Law Enforcement, Election Security, etc.)	
Impacts/ Outcomes	6.	Does the project proposal meet at least one national priority area?	
	7.	Does the project proposal meet multiple national priority areas?	
	8.	Does the project proposal address a gap or area for sustainment in the most current THIRA/SPR?	
	9.	Does the project proposal address multiple areas gaps in the most current THIRA/SPR?	
10.	Does the project proposal sustain established multiple THIRA/SPR capabilities in the STARRS region?		
Collaboration	11.	Does the project proposal support regional collaboration between multi-agency collaborative teams (sponsored by STARRS) or the Fusion Center?	
	12.	Does the project proposal support regional collaboration & interoperability within a regional team?	
	13.	Does the project proposal support regional collaboration between agencies or disciplines within the STARRS region?	
	14.	Does the project proposal implement a comprehensive and coordinated approach to addressing enduring security needs of communities that includes planning, training and awareness campaigns, and equipment and capital projects, and exercises?	
Budget	15.	Does the project proposal have the capability to be partially funded, funded across multiple years, or moved up for washout funding?	
		Total Score	

FY 2024 UASI Funding Recommendation:

The following spreadsheet and files document the funding recommendation of STARRS and EWG staff. The recommendation meets the requirements for all National Priorities and all Required Set Asides as well as abiding by other grant requirements.

Based upon available federal scoring information that we have obtained; we believe that this funding plan will successfully meet or exceed the requirements of the FEMA/DHS scoring process.