Thursday, November 8, 2007

Office of Emergency Management RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 31

Subject: Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$20,896 in grant funds from the State of Texas, Governor's Division of Emergency Management, Homeland Security Grant Program; and amend the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Public Safety and Emergency Management Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20070910-003 to appropriate \$20,896 for a total grant amount of \$292,896 for the enhancement of local first response capabilities for terrorist incidents.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from the State of Texas, Governor's Division of Emergency Management.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Otis Latin, Director, Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management 974-0450, or Lindy McGinnis, Senior Emergency Plans Officer 974-0465.

This request is to accept funds of \$20,896 from the Office of Grants and Training, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Homeland Security Grant Program for the purchase of equipment, planning and/or training costing. These funds are in addition to \$272,000 that was approved as part of the FY 2007-08 Operating Budget.

Of the total additional allocation, \$18,145 will continue funding the Metro Medical Response System (MMRS) Program. The MMRS program focuses on integrating local health and medical assets, including hospitals, public health, and EMS into a comprehensive capability for managing terrorist or conventional incidents that generate large numbers of casualties. Eligible expenditures include planning activities, medical supplies and pharmaceuticals, equipment, training and allowable exercise costs.

An additional \$2,751 will provide resources to the Central Texas Citizen Corps Council and the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program. The grant provides for basic response equipment for the CERT volunteers including radios, rain gear, helmets, flashlights, first aid equipment, and miscellaneous other rescue equipment. It will also fund printing for instructional materials.

The equipment to be purchased will be specified by the City of Austin. There is no match required by the City of Austin.