

13

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT COMMITTEE SEPTEMBER 15, 2005

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT FUNDS

ACTION: AMEND TRANSIT SECURITY FY06 BUDGET TO REPROGRAM UNUSED

GRANT FUNDS

RECOMMENDATION

Amend the FY06 budget to add \$1,650,401 of expenditures to the Transit Security department to be funded by state and federal Homeland Security grant funds originally budgeted in FY05.

ISSUE

Over the last three fiscal years, Metro has received three homeland security grants, two from the Federal Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the third from the State Office of Homeland Security (OHS). These grants are all funded over multiple fiscal years. In an effort to account for the use of grant funds appropriately by fiscal year, estimates were made at the time the grants were received. However, as the scope of work of some these grants has been revised these funds were not spent.

DISCUSSION

Receipt of federal and state homeland security grants have availed staff the opportunity to greatly enhance the agency's anti-terrorism efforts, thereby substantially increasing the safety and security of Metro's patrons and employees. This amendment will ensure that all funding is used as per the requirements of the funding agencies and consistent with policy direction given by the Board of Directors for transit security improvements.

OPTIONS

The Board could choose not to amend the FY06 budget. However if the Board chooses this action, staff will not be able to continue projects designated in the Homeland Security grants during FY06. This may result in forfeiture of the grant funds.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This action simply reprograms grant funds originally intended to be spent in FY05 to the FY06 budget.

DISCUSSION

Metro has received two federal DHS grants, one entitled Fiscal Year 2003 Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) for \$4.6 million and the second a Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) anti-terrorism training grant for \$1.5 million. The agency has also received a state Office of Domestic Preparedness UASI grant for \$795,280. These grants run through November 2005, September 2006 and November 2005 respectively. These grant funds are being used for procurement of security related equipment, dogs, anti-terrorism drills, and anti-terrorism training and materials.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will complete these projects in the timelines specified in each of the grants and will also continue to pursue future Homeland Security grant funds.

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