



Bay Area UASI

Introduction to the Bay Area UASI (Urban Areas Security Initiative)

*Urban Shield Task Force Meeting
1221 Oak Street Room 225, Oakland, CA
March 10, 2017*



About the Bay Area UASI

- Its mission is to strengthen regional capacity to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from catastrophic events
- Uses federal homeland security grant funds to analyze regional risks, identify capability gaps, and build a secure, prepared, and resilient region



The Grant's History

- The Department of Homeland Security first established high risk urban areas and determined federal funding allocations in 2003 in compliance with the Homeland Security Act of 2002
- Funds must be spent in accordance to the federal guidelines that govern the UASI grant as specified in the Homeland Security Act of 2002
- Between 2003 and 2005, the individual urban areas of Oakland, San Francisco, and San Jose were selected to receive separate funding
- In 2006, these major cities were consolidated into the Bay Area Urban Area
- By 2011, the Bay Area Urban Areas Security Initiative further expanded to include its current twelve county membership



Bay Area UASI Counties



- Alameda
- Contra Costa
- Marin
- Monterey
- Napa
- San Benito
- San Francisco
- San Mateo
- Santa Clara
- Santa Cruz
- Solano
- Sonoma



Funding

- The Bay Area region has received approximately \$295.2 million since 2006
- Funds must be used to build regional capability to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from emergencies
- Last year the Bay Area received nearly \$23 million



Bay Area UASI Approval Authority

- Responsible for policy and makes final project funding decisions
- Includes representation from each of the three major cities (San Francisco, Oakland, and San Jose) and most of the twelve counties located in the Bay Area UASI footprint
- Brown-Acted body with eleven voting members
- A multi-year master agreement amongst the counties and major cities governs participation and membership



Stakeholder Participation

The Bay Area UASI works with stakeholders to accomplish its mission:

- **State** (e.g., California Office of Emergency Services)
- **Federal** (FEMA, and Department of Homeland Security)
- **Private sector/quasi-governmental** (e.g., BayRICS, EBRICSA, EBMUD, PG&E, and SBRICS,)
- **Nongovernmental** (e.g., American Red Cross)
- **Other regional organizations** (e.g., Association of Bay Area Governments, Association of Bay Area Health Officers, and Metropolitan Transportation Commission)
- **Bay Area UASI workgroups** (e.g., Public Health and Medical, Emergency Management, Interoperability, Training and Exercise)



Bay Area UASI Focus Areas

- Community Resiliency and Recovery
- Cybersecurity
- Emergency Medical and Public Health Preparedness
- Catastrophic Planning
- Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives
- Interoperable Communications
- Public Information and Warning
- Risk Management and Infrastructure Protection
- Training and Exercise



Community Resiliency and Recovery

Community Resiliency and Recovery refers to a community's potential to withstand, adapt to, and recover from adversity such as a natural disaster.

Highlights:

The UASI has led the development of public/private partnerships and toolkits for emergency management officials, for example:

- Bay Area Public Private Partnerships Resiliency Initiative Toolkit
- Disaster Recovery Permit and Regulation Waiver Toolkit



Cybersecurity

Sophisticated cyber actors and nation-states exploit vulnerabilities and are developing capabilities to disrupt, destroy, or threaten the delivery of essential services and critical infrastructure.

Highlights:

Local, state, and federal agencies work together to conduct vulnerability assessments, penetration testing, and prevention training to address this regional threat.



Emergency Medical and Public Health

Emergency Medical and Public Health Preparedness provides planning for lifesaving medical treatment and public health support to people in need within areas affected by emergencies. Public health is integrated as an equal member of the Bay Area UASI emergency management community.

Highlights:

Some UASI initiatives include:

- Equipment such as emergency vaccination supplies and mobile morgues
- Incident response guides to help the public health community respond in a consistent way to incidents like an anthrax attack or ebola outbreak



Catastrophic Planning

Catastrophic Planning prepares for and mitigates the effects of large-scale disasters throughout the Bay Area. Working collaboratively, jurisdictions must develop comprehensive regional plans to identify gaps, prioritize needs, and leverage resources.

Highlights:

The UASI has led the development of plans, toolkits, trainings, and exercises for local emergency managers such as:

- Commodities Points of Distribution Planning Toolkit
- Large special event public safety planning assistance (e.g., Super Bowl)



CBRNE

The Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives (CBRNE) Program builds capability to respond to the threat of toxic industrial chemicals, biological agents, radiological and nuclear materials out of regulatory control, or explosives being used as a weapon of mass destruction.

Highlights:

- The UASI's Preventive Radiological/Nuclear Detection (PRND) Program leads detection and interdiction efforts on both land and water
- Hazardous material and explosive ordinance disposal teams throughout the Bay Area have been provided specialized detection and response equipment such as bomb robots



Interoperable Communications

Interoperable communications enable first responders to communicate across multiple disciplines and boundaries during both day-to-day incidents and large-scale emergencies.

Highlights:

The UASI has helped to accomplish the following:

- Standardized infrastructure and handheld devices
- Exercises to test interoperability
- Creation of BayRICS Joint Powers Authority to engage in regional planning, coordination, and cooperation



Public Information and Warning

Public Information and Warning systems deliver prompt, clear, specific, accurate, and actionable emergency messages to the public. Local government officials use such systems to disseminate warnings in an emergency.

Highlights:

The UASI has led the region with the following initiatives:

- Coordination amongst public information officers to align and share public messaging in a disaster
- Jurisdictions using the same vendor for warnings systems in a master contract to leverage economies of scale and cross training



The risk management and infrastructure protection program catalogs critical infrastructure, potential threats to such infrastructure, and provides a risk-based methodology for prioritizing future grant investments.

Highlights:

- Current critical infrastructure list of 15,000 assets throughout the region in a secure online catalogue system
- Each year the Bay Area UASI develops a list of the highest risk and gap areas for grant investments for the region as a whole and for each county and major city



Training & Exercise

Trainings and exercises provide the means to test, evaluate, and enhance the proficiency of Bay Area first responders prior to a disaster.

Highlights:

- Tests and trains in all Bay Area UASI program areas
- Trains thousands of local government fire, hazardous materials response, search and rescue, bomb squad, law enforcement, public health, and emergency management representatives
- Includes state, federal, nongovernmental, and private sector partners



QUESTIONS?



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Thank you!



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