

Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Super-Urban Area Security Initiative (SUASI)

Super-Urban Area Security Initiative (SUASI)

The Bay Area Super-Urban Area Security Initiative (SUASI) is a federal Department of Homeland Security grant that provides resources for the unique equipment, training, planning, and exercise needs of 35 selected national high threat urban areas. The Bay Area SUASI is one of 35 national urban areas and one of five identified in California.

The Bay Area SUASI area serves a population of 7 million and is comprised of three core cities; San Francisco, Oakland, and San Jose; 10 bay area counties; and over 100 incorporated cities. The geographical area covered by this region equates to approximately 8,800 square miles. The 2006 award to this area is approximately \$22 million dollars.

The 2006 SUASI concept is designed to build greater regional capabilities across a larger geographical area. Super urban areas receive funding based on evaluated risk and need. This is accomplished through the submission of regional investment justifications that address specific needs to meet the target capabilities outlined in the National Preparedness Goal.

Previous Initiatives (2003-2005)

The Bay Area SUASI 2006 is a change from previous grant years. The 2003 Bay Area UASI was comprised of one core city (San Francisco) and six bay area counties (San Francisco, Marin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Alameda, and Contra Costa). The 2004 and 2005 Bay Area UASI was divided up into three separate urban areas with three core cities. The city of San Francisco with the counties of San Francisco, Marin and San Mateo; the city of Oakland with the counties of Alameda and Contra Costa; and the city of San Jose with the counties of Santa Clara, San Benito, Santa Cruz, and Monterey made up the three urban areas identified by the Department of Homeland Security for the past two initiative years.

The 2006 Governance Structure

The 2006 program is managed through a three-tiered governance structure. The top tier consists of an Approval Authority that includes the three core cities of San Jose, Oakland, and San Francisco and the counties in which they are located (Santa Clara, Alameda, and San

Francisco). The OES Region II Administrator is also a member. The Approval Authority provides policy direction and is responsible for final decisions.

The middle tier is the Advisory Group and it is composed of the Operational Area leads for the 10 bay area counties, the three core cities, and the Coastal OES. This group makes policy and programmatic recommendations to the Approval Authority and provides input to the planning process.

Working groups formed around the major initiatives make up the final tier and are composed of appointed members, subject matter experts, and interested parties from the recognized area.

Current Status

Eleven initiatives have been funded in 2006 that are consistent with National Preparedness Goals. They are:

- Expand Regional Cooperation
- Training and Exercise
- CBRNE Detection and Response
- Medical Surge
- Infrastructure Protection
- Mass Prophylaxis
- Interoperable Communications
- Information Sharing and Collaboration
- Public Information and Warning
- Mass Care
- Citizen Preparedness and Participation

A major goal of the 2006 plan is to conduct a detailed assessment of Bay Area capabilities as they relate to each of the initiatives. The assessments will be analyzed to identify a baseline to build on. The analysis will also identify gaps and specific needs within the eleven initiatives to be prioritized and addressed with current or future funds.

To date, 30 program deliverables have been identified for the 11 initiatives. They are as follows:

1. Facilitation of regional planning, information sharing, and development of best practices in disaster preparedness through monthly workgroup meetings including local, state, and federal partners

2. Dedicated planning personnel for each of the 10 county operational areas and the three major cities of Oakland, San Francisco, and San Jose
3. A website and newsletter for sharing information about the program, coordination of training opportunities throughout the region, best practices, and emergency management updates
4. A multi-discipline/multi-hazard needs assessment and evaluation of the San Francisco Bay Area region's Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive (CBRNE) response capabilities as it pertains to terrorism and normal industrial responses
5. An up-datable regional CBRNE resource typing/tracking/inventory tool that can be integrated into existing architecture used within the ten Bay Area Counties
6. A five (5) year CBRNE strategic plan inclusive of a sustainability component based upon the completion of the needs assessment and gap analysis
7. Assessment of national citizen preparedness public education campaigns that incorporate the best practices of social marketing programs
8. Assessment of the effectiveness of the various citizen preparedness programs available in the Bay Area
9. New or improved citizen preparedness programs in each of the four program types that can be used in all 10 Bay Area SUASI counties
10. Analysis of the various interoperable communications projects that make up the Interoperable Communication Program and determine what infrastructure is necessary to facilitate these programs to ensure connectivity across 10 Bay Area Counties
11. Development of a five (5) year interoperable communications strategic plan based upon the completion of the needs assessment and gap analysis. The strategic plan will include high-level solutions and a phased approach to implementation
12. An investment of \$6 million dollars in interoperable communications equipment to be installed throughout the Bay Area
13. A shelter operations tool kit consisting of policies, procedures and guidance documents that will assist individual communities, cities and counties with development of tiered shelter operations for advancing shelter operations from basic to advanced
14. A shelter operations guidance document for the evacuation, care and shelter of animals, including pets, service animals and exotics
15. A mass prophylaxis template assessment tool and database that includes but is not limited to the following criteria: site location and demographics; hours of operation; current health care mission; resources available for response including staff numbers, disciplines, licenses and skills; supplies and equipment available for use in response and additional services for disaster response

16. Funding for the American Red Cross to provide training to community groups for non-affiliated shelter operations
17. A comprehensive assessment of the current models for mass prophylaxis within the 10 Bay Area SUASI counties and development of a guidance document identifying the various approaches to mass dispensing and mass immunization, including standardization for screening, dispensing and logistics at dispensing sites
18. A training program for use in training those individuals with a role in mass dispensing as identified in the guidance document
19. Assessment of traditional and non-traditional health care providers within the 10 Bay Area counties and their cities. Assessment to include but not limited to hospitals, clinics, licensed independent practitioners, surgery centers, dialysis clinics, employee health centers, skilled nursing faculties and others
20. Completion of a multi-discipline, multi-hazard capabilities assessment, evaluation and gap analysis of the Bay Area SUASI region's Public Information and Warning capabilities and systems as it pertains to terrorism and other all-hazards responses, with an emphasis on special needs populations
21. A five-year strategic plan to address development of Public Information and Warning capabilities applicable to the 10 Bay Area Counties, and focus the first phase of implementation on special needs populations
22. Protocols for use of appropriate general and specific messaging to effectively communicate with first responders/providers and the public, with an emphasis on special needs populations
23. A multi-discipline, multi-hazard capabilities assessment and gap analysis of the Bay Area SUASI region's training and exercise levels identifying standards and establishing benchmarks based on local, State and Federal models/guidelines
24. A five-year, strategic training and exercise plan that is inclusive of a sustainability component, based upon the completion of the capabilities assessment and gap analysis. The plan will address development of the Training and Exercise capabilities applicable to the 10 Bay Area Counties
25. A volunteer management system, consistent with the State of California Disaster Service Worker program. to be used in all 10 Bay Area SUASI counties before, during and after a declared disaster or catastrophic event
26. An intake form for use in pre-registration of volunteers as well as spontaneous volunteers at the time of the event
27. A standardized patient tracking tool for use in all 10 Bay Area SUASI counties
28. Implementation of three multi-disciplinary, cross-jurisdictional Terrorism Early Warning Groups (TEWG's) in the East, South, and West Bay
29. Security improvements to the Golden Gate Bridge and BART
30. Purchase of regionally deployed equipment for water purification

Estimates for UASI and SUASI in the Future

It is anticipated that future awards will follow the same 2006 guidelines and rely heavily on identified regional risks and needs. The Bay Area SUASI will continue to evaluate and prioritize current and future security initiatives and work towards the goals outlined within each of them. The 2007 grant application process is already underway.