

Nebraska Emergency Management/ Homeland Security Program



2020 PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES REPORT



The State of Nebraska's annual report on the priorities, goals and objectives supporting the National Preparedness Goal and associated activities funded through the Department of Homeland Security and the Homeland Security Grant Program

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State of Nebraska
Office of Homeland Security
2020 Status of the Nebraska Emergency Management/Homeland Security Program

January 21, 2021

Governor Pete Ricketts
Lieutenant Governor Mike Foley
Homeland Security Policy Group
Legislative Appropriations Committee
Executive Board of the Legislative Council

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pursuant to Nebraska RRS 81-830, Office of Homeland Security, this is the yearly report for FY2020 program activities within the state in support of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). This report contains the identified state priorities, goals, and objectives in support of the National Preparedness Goal and the associated activities funded through the DHS Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) for FY2020.

Nebraska faces similar threats from terrorism and natural disasters as any other state. Although Nebraska's central location may mitigate potential threats from international terrorism, its small, dispersed population, large agricultural and food processing industry, electrical grid, and telecommunications capabilities are potential targets that must be addressed within the context of the total state program. The challenge for Nebraska is to programmatically build an emergency management/homeland security program that effectively leverages our statewide resources and capabilities. This is an exceedingly complex task that requires regional coordination, cooperation, and a focused effort from local, tribal, state, and federal partners, the state's citizens, and private and nonprofit sectors.

Three main areas of focus for the Nebraska Emergency Management/Homeland Security Program are reflected in the FY2020 HSGP investment justifications¹:

1. **Planning Exercise and Training (PET) Program/National Incident Management System (NIMS):** This program focuses on enhancing capabilities through regional, comprehensive, and progressive planning, exercises, and training. Additionally, the state continues to maintain an emphasis on the Incident Command System (ICS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS), as per the governor's executive order #0502.
2. **Interoperable Communications:** The state emergency management/homeland security program is developing an interoperable public safety network, recognizing the importance of interoperable, multi-jurisdictional, and multi-agency communications during emergencies.
3. **CBRNE Cities & Emergency Response:** Chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive (CBRNE) threats exist across the state. Ten hazardous materials teams, located across the state, provide hazardous materials response through a state memorandum of understanding (MOU) and local mutual aid agreements.

¹ Investment justifications are submitted to DHS and must demonstrate how proposed projects address gaps and deficiencies in current programs and capabilities. Investment justifications are part of the evaluation criteria used by DHS when allocating grant funds.

In addition to these three main focus areas, the state also submitted investment justifications for programs in four additional areas: Agriculture Response and Recovery, Law Enforcement Improvised Explosive Device (IED) and the Intelligence and Fusion Center Process, Citizen Corps, and the Metropolitan Medical Response System.

The state and local jurisdictions remains focused on the priorities and programs identified in the State Homeland Security Strategy and continue to build a strong program that is relevant, prudent for Nebraska, supportive of, and can integrate with, the National Preparedness Goal.

Beginning in FY2012, DHS linked the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) under the umbrella of the HSGP. The Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) and Citizen Corps Program (CCP) are no longer funded as distinct grant programs. However, all activities and costs allowed under the FY2011 Citizen Corps Program (CCP) and FY2011 Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) grant program were allowable and encouraged under the FY2020 HSGP. Grant rules required that 25 percent of the total funds awarded under the SHSP be distributed in support of law enforcement terrorism prevention activities linked to one or more core capabilities within the National Preparedness Goal.

FY2020 Homeland Security Grant Program Overview (HSGP):²

FY2020 funds were allocated based on three factors: 1) the legislatively mandated minimum amount, 2) DHS' risk methodology, and 3) anticipated effectiveness of the projects proposed, based on the strengths of the state's investment justifications. Based upon the submitted FY2020 investment justifications and the risk analysis for the state, Nebraska was awarded the congressionally mandated base line allocation of **\$4,287,500** for the SHSP. The state had no federally-designated UASI cities in FY2020, and therefore did not receive any UASI funds.

State Homeland Security Program (SHSP): The SHSP supports state, tribal, territorial, and local preparedness activities that address high priority preparedness gaps across all core capabilities that support terrorism preparedness.

After the 2020 investment justifications were accepted by DHS, the funds Nebraska received were allocated to the local level, within 45 days, to pre-designated projects that resulted from a regional investment justifications process. A regionally-designated administrative county received the funds and oversaw program integration and progress with the assistance of the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), the state administrative agency (SAA).

The Nebraska 2020 HSGP investment justifications were built upon the state having a comprehensive, leveraged program approach, involving state and local program capabilities that support each other with the flexibility to integrate into the National Planning Frameworks. The 2020 investment justifications submitted by Nebraska were the result of a collaborative effort involving the 10 CBRNE hazardous materials response teams, the wide spectrum of first responders from across the state, the MMRS programs, public health departments, volunteers/citizen corps, the state planning team, and the Governor's Homeland Security Policy Group.

There has been a focused effort, since 1999, to build upon the initial State Homeland Security Strategy. Since the start of the program, funding has been utilized to meet Nebraska's identified risk, threats, and vulnerabilities, in order to strengthen capabilities, planning, training, and exercise programs across the broad spectrum of needs. Nebraska supports the National Preparedness Goal through the application of a systems-based approach, utilizing capabilities-based planning as a

² Fiscal Year 2020 Homeland Security Grant Program Notice of Funding Opportunity, pg. 8.

common, all-hazard, major-events planning process. This provides a mechanism for measuring preparedness and identifying future preparedness investments. All of the emergency response processes, programs, and capabilities already in place within our state, local, tribal, and private sector homeland security programs, across all disciplines, support the National Preparedness Goal.

Nebraska's homeland security program provides a way to enhance these existing resources by networking them together more effectively. This report details how Nebraska continues to build on past successes and expand its capabilities in gap areas related to the regionalization of equipment, resources, and programs supported by previous homeland security grants.

The homeland security program, and the allocation of grant dollars at both the state and local level, supported seven primary investment justifications. What follows is a brief overview of these investment justifications. Each investment section includes a brief history of the investment, an explanation of the current status of the investment, and a description of the future of the investment with any foreseeable challenges.

Investment Justification #1: Nebraska State and Regional Planning, Exercising, and Training (PET)

This investment includes sustainment and enhancement of a planning, exercise, and training process that has been used for several years within the state. It sustains the current training and exercising philosophy that is built each year into the training, exercise, and planning workshop (TEPW) and integrated into the state and regional multi-year training and exercise plan. It enhances the process by completing the Threat and Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (THIRA) process, integrating state/regional public health and MMRS programs into planning, developing risk assessment tools for the public and private sector, and integrating technical assistance provisions from the state into the state/local/regional/tribal planning process.

In 2020, Nebraska continued the core capabilities-based PET program within the eight PET regions. The training focus in previous years ensured that the state now has enough qualified, credentialed, individuals from across the state to staff an ad hoc Type 3 all-hazards incident management team. Nebraska's online database of credentialed staff and equipment gives local jurisdictions the ability to identify people with the appropriate training and qualifications for a needed response during a disaster. This summer, that system provided the ability to successfully manage the Hubbard's Gap Fire without loss of life, or significant damage to infrastructure or personal property. Maintaining management of the fire using an ad hoc Type 3 incident management team made up of in-state personnel saved tens of thousands of dollars for the state.



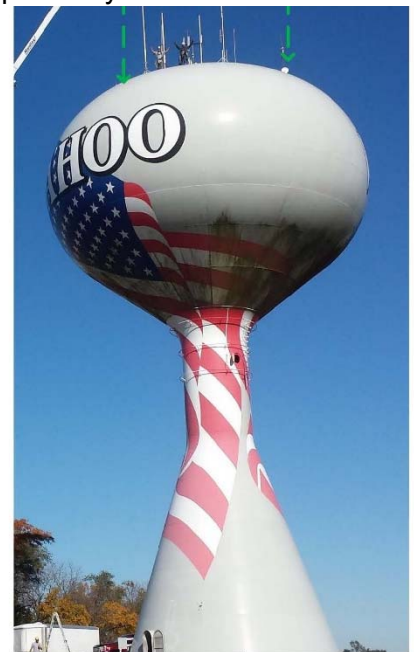
COVID-19 created many new challenges in 2020. First and foremost, it forced emergency managers across the state to become technically proficient as it relates to technologies associated with virtual meeting and training platforms. The pandemic has forced in person training to be significantly curtailed, creating potential funding issues and a good portion of emergency management training in the state is funded with federal grant funds and many of the 2020 training offerings were funded with grant funds that are due to sunset at the end of 2020. As we embark on a new calendar year, our COVID-19 response identified the continued need for coordinated stakeholder involvement as well as the need to reinforce the precepts National Incident Management System while engaging multi-discipline stakeholders, utilizing common language and forms already in place and trained.

Investment Justification #2: Nebraska Interoperable Communications

The state has several communications initiatives that are federally funded and supported through NEMA. These grant funded projects are managed by NEMA with oversight from a communications council.

Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council (NPSCC)

Through executive order 12-01, the NPSCC was created to provide policy-level direction, leadership and promote public safety communications development and interoperability in the state. Directed by the State Homeland Security Director, the council holds periodic meetings to review communication achievements as well as issues. The Council was formed to incorporate both state and local entities to allow for a broader spectrum of input and ideas. The council is responsible for approving grant funded communication projects and thus, goes through an intense process of determining where the grant funds are most needed. Once the approval recommendations are made, the council sends them to the Nebraska Homeland Security Policy Group for final approval.



Representation on the NPSCC includes members from the Nebraska State Patrol, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Nebraska State Fire Marshal Agency, Nebraska Office of the Chief Information Officer, Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, Nebraska Public Power District, each of the eight planning, exercise and training (PET) regions, Nebraska League of Municipalities and Nebraska Association of County Officials.

NPSCC met three times during 2020 and shared information about COVID-19 and large group gatherings. During these meetings there were discussions on communication issues during events across Nebraska. Some of these events included the distribution assistance for health care equipment and the need for greater communication capability between front line workers. This will be one of the major goals for this council during 2021.

During 2021, NPSCC will continue its work with the four (4) large statewide initiatives, SRS, NRIN, FirstNet, and the ESINet project.

Priorities for Nebraska interoperable communications include:

1. Complete installation and implementation of the Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network.
2. Outreach, education, and training on the national interoperability frequencies
3. Train and exercise state and local tactical interoperable communications plans (TICPs)

4. Continue outreach and training on NRIN capabilities and uses
5. Coordinate statewide communications planning through the SWIC/State Homeland Security Director, NEMA, and NSP.

Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN)

The NRIN project is a point-to-point microwave connection of public safety access points on a single, redundant network. When finished, NRIN will provide county officials high speed, secure transport services for data, as well as a primary or backup dispatch system. The NRIN system will continue to grow as more users realize the capabilities and benefits of the system. The NRIN Governance Board continues to maintain and monitor the network, in cooperation with the Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD). A governance board was created to manage the network and ensure that it meets the demands that a high-speed, secure network requires. The governance board is made up of two representatives from each of the PET regions. This versatile board represents local government, emergency management, law enforcement and fiscal management. Among some of the duties for this board are sustainment of the network, educating local government officials on NRIN, monitoring, and maintenance.

Law enforcement agencies continue to join the state's P25 digital statewide radio system (SRS) to upgrade their communications technology. NRIN is used by several local dispatch centers to connect their upgraded console systems to the SRS core, expanding their access to shared communications resources with other state and local agencies. The state Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) operates the SRS on behalf of state, local and federal agencies, with regular outreach and training provided. By making a concerted effort to follow up on small sections and finalize individual sites, the redundancy has become stronger and more robust for the entire network.

Investment Justification #3: Nebraska CBRNE Cities and Emergency Response Planning



The hazmat program in Nebraska dates back to 1999, when NEMA established agreements with ten local fire departments with the goal of creating a CBRNE program that has the ability to respond, stabilize, and mitigate a hazardous materials incident within our borders. Over the years, the program has grown and expanded. Members of the hazmat community have attended national trainings and challenges, coming back from the Los Alamos National Hazmat Challenge taking 1st place in the obstacle course in 2018. They continue to maintain their skill set while expanding into new technology. Responses continue to rise both nationally and locally.

Nebraska has developed a robust, multi-layered strategy for responding to hazardous material incidents. The Nebraska Hazardous Incident Team (NHIT) is a joint team made up of hazmat technicians from the Nebraska State Fire Marshal Agency, the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy, and the Nebraska State Patrol. They are stationed across the state for rapid response to incidents throughout Nebraska. In addition, ten fire departments statewide with

MOUs with the state provide a full team of trained technicians at any location in the state.

Members of the Nebraska hazmat response community have continued to train to the highest standards and have competed in national competitions. They have also responded to real-world incidents that could have caused severe damage to life and property if not contained.

Looking forward, training remains a top priority for all teams. Turnover in departments requires new members to step forward to fulfill the role of hazmat technician. The state will ensure these responders are given the best available training to safely fulfill their mission. Future goals also include pursuing team typing per the National Incident Management Systems standards and creating a training program that allows all teams to come together and train as a group.

Investment Justification #4: Nebraska Agriculture Response and Recovery

Beginning in 2003, Nebraska used funding from the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) to increase the state's ability to deal with threats to agriculture and the food supply. These funds continue to support two main focus areas: local planning and education and the Livestock Emergency Disease Response System (LEDRS).

The LEDRS system was developed in 2002 so private sector veterinarians across Nebraska could be activated, as needed, during a livestock emergency, and continues to provide planning and exercise opportunities to private veterinarians and other LEDRS members each year. In 2020, SHSP partially funded the LEDRS Conference, which was held virtually, August 12-13. The conference presented information on timely topics such as Depopulation Considerations, FMD Vaccine Prioritization, USDA Accreditation Modules and Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Outbreak. LEDRS continues to get participants credentialed, according to policy for emergency response activities. This year, approximately 5 veterinarians joined the LEDRS Corp and are working to complete the required ICS courses. The Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) coordinated with USDA to ensure veterinarians received the Accreditation and Continuing Education Hours.

This year, the COVID-19 Pandemic emphasized the need to protect the supply chain and agriculture industry in Nebraska. NDA has been working with livestock groups on implementing the Secure Food Supply Plans in the livestock sectors to better prepare producers in the event of a disease outbreak. With African Swine Fever rapidly spreading throughout the Eastern Hemisphere, and the recent Bovine Tuberculosis outbreaks, many producers are seeing the importance of these plans.

One of NDA's biggest challenges is being prepared for the next emergency. It became apparent during the outbreak of 2015 that our staff needed more ICS training. NDA has implemented the policy that all staff are required to take at least the basic ICS courses (100, 200, 700, and 800). Employees that are needed to fill a command or general staff position will be required to take ICS 300 and 400. It is our goal to have most ICS positions relevant to an animal disease response staffed 3 deep within our department.



Investment Justification #5: Law Enforcement Improvised Explosive Device (IED) and the Intelligence and Fusion Center Process

This investment justification is a combined focus on the Law Enforcement Improvised Explosive Device (IED) Response and Planning and Intelligence and Fusion Center processes. The efforts of the fusion center and IED response are intended to further the state's ability to detect, prevent, respond to, and recover from a terrorist event, or natural disaster. The investment justification builds on the national priorities of strengthening information sharing and collaboration capabilities within the state, at the regional level, and with federal partners. The fusion center



process is carried out through the Nebraska Information Analysis Center (NIAC). The NIAC integrates data from many state and local data sources, including the Nebraska State Patrol (NSP), Lincoln Police Department, Omaha Police Department (OPD), North Platte Police Department, Lancaster County Sheriff's Office, Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, Gothenburg Police Department, Grand Island Police Department, the Adams County Sheriff's Office, and the University of Nebraska Police Department, with the NSP providing day-to-day leadership. Among its many accomplishments this year, the NIAC was instrumental in providing intelligence products which helped thwart a potential active shooter incident on Offutt Air Force Base.

IED response and planning is used to ensure all accredited bomb squads in Nebraska have adequate capabilities and equipment for responses to explosive-related incidents across Nebraska. There are four accredited bomb squads in Nebraska that employ hazardous device technicians (HDTs). The agencies maintaining bomb squads are the NSP, OPD, Lincoln Bureau of Fire Prevention, and the Scottsbluff Police Department. While not receiving federal homeland security funds, the Nebraska National Guard's 155th Air Refueling Wing has an explosive ordinance response team comprised of full-time and part-time personnel, many of whom have combat IED experience. While their primary mission deals with ordinance, they could be used for IED response.

This year, the Nebraska Information Analysis Center (NIAC) was faced with a wide range of challenges. NIAC analysts collected, collated, and analyzed, an unprecedented 451 reports related to suspicious Unmanned Aircraft Systems in Nebraska as well as provided counter threat support to COVID-19 response activities. Analysts worked to identify and assess different threat streams, many of which were misinformation and disinformation. Because of COVID-19, we developed new communication channels, adapting where our analysts work, how we communicate as a team, and how we host information sharing meetings. The NIAC was also able to hire a new research manager and cyber analyst, as well as hire and train six new analysts.

Nebraska's bomb squads continue to train and enhance capabilities with specialized equipment obtained through the grant process. Training and equipment purchased from grant funding has assisted the squad in another year of no injuries or fatalities to squad members or the public. The NSP bomb squad was also able to hire a sixth HDT who will be operating in an apprentice status until he completes the FBI Hazardous Device School in Huntsville Alabama.

As crime and the threat environment continue to evolve, so will the NIAC. The NIAC is expanding our outreach and information-sharing network with Law Enforcement Agencies and private partners.

The NIAC will also work to grow our threat analysis support, and education on misinformation and disinformation campaigns. Misinformation and disinformation campaigns are a major challenge for the NIAC, and these threads use up resources during emergencies and muddy the threat picture. On the personnel side, retaining long term and senior analysts is a challenge, because other agencies have better pay and benefits.

All the bomb squads are part-time squads, with the HDTs having other primary duties within their respective agencies. This creates challenges in maintaining monthly training hours in accordance with national standards/guidelines. This part-time status also challenges the bomb squads in equipment maintenance and proficiencies. Law enforcement in general, but specifically the bomb squads, are challenged in the enforcement of explosive/IED-related statutes. Nebraska currently has outdated and contradicting statutes with regard to explosives and/or IEDs, making effective prosecution and public safety a challenge. Major emergency scenes can necessitate federal, state, and local agencies working together. With this potential type of event involving so many different entities, the need to train together is imperative on a yearly basis.

Investment Justification #6: Nebraska Citizen Corps Program

The Nebraska Citizen Corps program works with emergency management, public health departments, first responders, and other preparedness partners to provide public education, training, and volunteer opportunities for Nebraskans. Through providing technical assistance to programs on the local level, fostering connections between preparedness partners at the national, state, and local levels, and working to further develop the capacity of the State Citizen Corps Council, the Citizen Corps program ensures that all Nebraskans are better prepared for and able to respond to disasters.



In 2020, Nebraska Citizen Corps was actively involved in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Citizen Corps groups played an integral role in COVID-19 testing sites and drive-thru clinics setup and management during the onset of the pandemic, assisting local health departments with contact tracing, logistical support, and distribution of the Strategic National Stockpile and supporting local supply chains; and leading local efforts to create thousands of masks that were in turn given to the public free of cost.

Local Citizen Corps program teams were also utilized in response to local flooding in areas still recovering from the widespread 2019 Nebraska Floods. Additionally, Citizen Corps partnered with Nebraska Disaster Behavioral Health for its annual conference and assisted with behavioral health partners to exercise disaster plans. Local Citizen Corps programs also continued to provide Psychological First Aid (PFA) training as well as community emergency response team (CERT) courses, Rapid Shelter Team Setup/Shelter Management, Stop-the-Bleed and Hands-Only CPR classes throughout the year utilizing online platforms. These trainings help communities and their citizens become more resilient

and prepared to respond to a variety of incidents and support local emergency management efforts.

In 2021, Nebraska Citizen Corps will continue to build statewide disaster response capacity by supporting the creation and development of local Citizen Corps programs, acting as a source of information and technical assistance to these groups and to other preparedness partners, and facilitating and assisting in State Citizen Corps Council activities.

Investment Justification #7: Nebraska Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS)

The MMRS program is specifically targeted to the Omaha Metropolitan Healthcare Coalition (OMHCC) region. Specific funds were identified for Omaha to address the medical response to an all-hazards environment and link the MMRS system to the state’s homeland security program.

The OMHCC activated for the COVID-19 pandemic response on 1/27/2020 and has not deactivated as of this date. The OMHCC continues to facilitate Hospital Unified Command (HUC) meetings three times per week and maintain their Incident Action Plan (IAP), which is in its 32nd operational period.



In the last year, the OMHCC has obtained Essential Elements of Information (EEI) submitted by OMHCC hospitals into Knowledge Center on a daily basis. This includes information on bed availability, ED capacity information, various facility and PPE information, COVID-19 patient counts, ventilator and supply management information, and all of the required data for our federal partners. UNMC and the Global Center for Health

Security have used OMHCC EEI data as part of their Pandemic Recovery Acceleration Model (PRAM) Index and this data has also been used to help determine directed health measures. Also, demonstrating the collaboration within our healthcare community, the OMHCC was selected as the 2020 Regional Service Award winner by the Omaha – Council Bluffs Metropolitan Area Planning Agency (MAPA) for our coordination work during the COVID response.

Due to the COVID-19 incident, the OMHCC has conducted several resource allocation operations. This includes providing the following from the OMHCC cache alone (approximate numbers): 1.3 million surgical masks, 20 adult MasCache PODs, 8 pediatric MasCache PODs, 5,808 4oz. bottles of hand sanitizer, 90 3M FR57 PAPR filters, 140 privacy screens, 12,300 Cardinal Health Isolation Gowns, 57 CBRN System Conversion Kits, 390 ILC Dover CBRN Cartridges, 200 BEMIS 800cc Suction Canister w/lid, 183 7mm x 1.8 m suction tubing, 346 AirLife Tri-Flo Suction Cath-N-Glove Kits (14 Fr), 26 3M AirMate HEPA Filters, 3,100 N-95 3M 1870+ masks, 575,220 nitrile gloves (all sizes), 133 ILC Dover Cartridges, 2 ISOPODs and 20 POD Replacement Gloves, 23 rolls of Bio Seal Material (300

FT), and a few other miscellaneous items (e.g. LED Lights, ILC Dover Hood, Hospital Evacuation Tags).

The OMHCC Resource Cache has been nearly depleted. The OMHCC will determine whether or not to restockpile resources used during the pandemic. With limited funding, it may not be possible. The Equipment and Resources workgroup and the Executive Committee will evaluate this as part of the after action review process once the pandemic has ended. The OMHCC Exercise and Training Workgroup has developed a Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan (MYTEP), and will be conducting a new training needs assessment to determine training needs as a result of the pandemic. All OMHCC exercises in 2020 were postponed or cancelled. The pandemic has shown the potential of Knowledge Center, which is widely used. The challenge will be the continued use of Knowledge Center by response partners once the pandemic is over. The OMHCC will assist DHHS upon request with the promotion of Knowledge Center. The OMHCC coordinator is a system administrator in the Knowledge Center system.

The OMHCC values the SHSG and its partners within the Tri-County region. This funding is necessary in order to continue forward movement on disaster planning as it relates to the healthcare system.

Conclusion

The Office of the Lt. Governor, and the Homeland Security Policy Group, continue to lead the overall homeland security effort for the state of Nebraska. Due to the composition and complexity of the DHS grants, many of the grant activities for FY2020 are just beginning to be implemented. However, some of the current funding is already being used to enhance and sustain existing programs. The Nebraska Emergency Management/Homeland Security Program is integrated into the Nebraska Homeland Security Strategy and focused on long-term accomplishments and capabilities.

Planning for, responding to, recovering from, and mitigating natural and manmade disasters is not a one-time event. It is not just a box to be “checked off”; it is an ongoing process designed to reduce the vulnerabilities of the people and communities of Nebraska from the damage, injury, and loss of life and property associated with disasters and emergencies.

The state’s homeland security program has matured a great deal since the events of September 11, 2001. This can be seen in the continued development of the Nebraska Information and Analysis Center under a collaborative environment between the NSP and federal and local law enforcement agencies, the build-out of state and local communication systems, and the enhanced hazardous material response systems across the state. There has also been a tremendous increase in training and inter-agency cooperation, at both the state and local level, as evidenced by county emergency managers that come together and deploy to a disaster scene, as occurred this year at the Hubbard’s Gap fire. Nebraska’s successful formation of a fully-formed and credentialed Type-III incident management team, which can deploy to help local officials manage larger disasters, is a credit to the state’s commitment to training. When the Nebraska program was established, decisions were made to support the program through existing state agencies and consolidate the executive requirements for homeland security under the Office of the Lt. Governor. Although we anticipate increased scrutiny at the federal level, in terms of funding support, we believe the state of Nebraska made good decisions that resulted in increased security and readiness for the entire state.

Currently, funds received by the state support 100% of the state’s administrative homeland security program and 20% of the costs to programmatically carry out the state’s homeland security and emergency management program. These funds also support up to 80% of the local emergency management programs across the state. It is almost certain that in future budget cycles, the state will be asked to determine the level of support we should continue to give toward the state’s homeland security program, based upon the changing environment for funding support from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Such reductions in funding would eventually lead to extended timelines for the completion of on-going communication projects and reductions in homeland security programs within NEMA, negatively affecting the state’s ability to enact and carry out the state emergency management and homeland security program.



Daryl Bohac
Major General
NEMA Director



Bryan Tuma
NEMA Assistant Director
DHS State Administrative Agent

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Attachments:

2020 State Homeland Security Grant Program Totals

List of Members of the Homeland Security Policy Group

Acronyms and Terms

Nebraska PET Regions/MOU Hazardous Materials Response Teams Regional Map

Executive Order 12-01

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2020 Homeland Security Grant Allocations

Region	Citizen Corps	LETPP	Comm	PET	National Priorities					Totals
					CyberSecurity - Elections	SoftTargets / Crowded Places - Elections	Information & Intelligence Sharing	Emergent Threats		
East Central	\$6,500.00	\$6,320.00	\$54,600.00	\$72,952.00	\$4,200.00			\$1,950.00	\$146,522.00	
North Central		\$8,000.00	\$53,263.00	\$70,200.00					\$131,463.00	
Northeast		\$18,000.00	\$181,600.00	\$78,400.00				\$15,000.00	\$293,000.00	
Panhandle		\$91,526.00		\$44,600.00					\$136,126.00	
South Central	\$14,000.00	\$90,100.00	\$387,000.00	\$125,000.00				\$20,400.00	\$636,500.00	
Southeast			\$11,300.00	\$17,800.00	\$135,882.00	\$214,375.00			\$379,357.00	
Southwest	\$1,500.00			\$15,000.00				\$25,000.00	\$41,500.00	
Tri-County	\$41,366.00	\$164,475.00		\$173,703.00	\$84,000.00			\$40,000.00	\$503,544.00	
Lincoln Co - Statewide HazMat Team								\$21,413.00	\$317,500.00	
State Fusion Center							\$214,375.00	\$56,712.00	\$271,087.00	
Hazardous Device Technicians								\$33,900.00	\$33,900.00	

Total
\$2,911,912.00

Agriculture	\$40,000.00
Statewide Citizen Corps Coordinator & Conference	\$125,298.00
Fusion Center - NIAC	\$362,613.00
Hazardous Device Technicians	\$272,100.00
NE Helicopter Search and Rescue Team (from NEMA's Share)	\$25,000.00
NE Regional Interoperability Network	\$300,000.00
Metropolitan Medical Response System	\$46,728.00

Total
\$775,226.00

Represents 80% Total Award to Local Units of Government \$3,687,138.00 *

**To the Local Share, NEMA contributed \$257,138 - covering Emerging Threats, HSART, and a portion of Communications costs*

Remaining 20% is retained at the State Level as per Grant guidance \$857,500.00

NEMA - \$600,362* - funding is allocated to PET programming, and Management & Administration of the grant

Total Grant Award \$4,287,500.00

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2020 Governor's Homeland Security Policy Group Members

Gubernatorial Appointees

Lt. Governor Mike Foley
Homeland Security Director

Maj. Gen. Daryl Bohac
Adjutant General – Nebraska Military Department

Col. John Bolduc
Superintendent – Nebraska State Patrol

Christopher Kratochvil
Vice Chancellor – University of Nebraska Medical Center

Christopher Cantrell
State Fire Marshal – Nebraska State Fire Marshal

Steve Wellman
Director – Nebraska Department of Agriculture

Dannette Smith
Chief Executive Officer – Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services

Gary Anthone, MD
Chief Medical Officer - Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services

Edward Toner
Chief Information Officer – Nebraska Department of Administrative Services
Office of the Chief Information Officer

Bryan Tuma
Assistant Director – Nebraska Emergency Management Agency

Jason Kruger, MD
Public Health – Medical Response – Preparedness

Cheryl Wolff
Senior Policy Advisor – Nebraska Governor's Policy Research Office

Ex-Officio Members

Sen. Thomas Brewer
Chair – Government – Military & Veterans Affairs Committee
Nebraska Unicameral Legislature

Sen. Anna Wishart
Committee Member – Appropriations Committee
Nebraska Unicameral Legislature

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Acronyms and Terms

CBRNE: Chemical, Biological, Radioactive, Nuclear and Explosive

CCP: Citizen Corps Program

DHS: United States Department of Homeland Security

FEMA: Federal Emergency Management Agency

Fusion Center: an intelligence-gathering and analysis center used to promote sharing of information among local, state and federal agencies as well as non-governmental business partners

Haz Mat: Hazardous Materials

HDT: Hazardous Device Technician

Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP): a capabilities and performance-based exercise program that provides a standardized methodology and terminology for exercise design, development, conduct, evaluation, and improvement planning¹

Homeland Security Policy Group: led by the lieutenant governor, this group assesses strategic alternatives and recommends broad courses of action for the development of comprehensive homeland security strategies

HSGP: Homeland Security Grant Program

IED: Improvised Explosive Device

Incident Command System (ICS): consists of a standard hierarchical organization and procedures used to manage incidents

Investment Justification: method by which the state explains its planned use for Homeland Security grant funds

MMRS: Metropolitan Medical Response System

MOU: Memorandum of Understanding

National Incident Management System (NIMS): a framework used in the United States for both governmental and non-governmental agencies to respond to natural or manmade disasters at the local, state, and federal levels of government

National Planning Scenarios: Fifteen all-hazards planning scenarios for use in preparedness activities. They represent the range of natural and manmade disasters

National Preparedness Goal: The President directed the development of a National Preparedness Goal (or Goal) in Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD)-8. The Goal reorients how the Federal government proposes to strengthen the preparedness of the United States to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies. The Goal establishes a vision, capabilities, and priorities for national preparedness.²

¹ HSEEP Website, <https://hseep.dhs.gov/>

² National Preparedness Goal, iii

National Priorities: 8 national priorities that are to be used to help guide preparedness goals and reflect major themes and issues identified through national strategies ³

NEMA: Nebraska Emergency Management Agency

PET: Planning, Exercise and Training

SHSP: State Homeland Security Program

State Homeland Security Strategy: identifies a strategic direction for enhancing the State of Nebraska's capability and capacity to detect, prevent against, protect against, respond to, and recover from threats or incidents of terrorism, disasters, and major emergencies.⁴

Target Capabilities List: 37 specific capabilities that communities, the private sector, and all levels of government should collectively possess in order to respond effectively to disasters.⁵

UASI: Urban Area Security Initiative

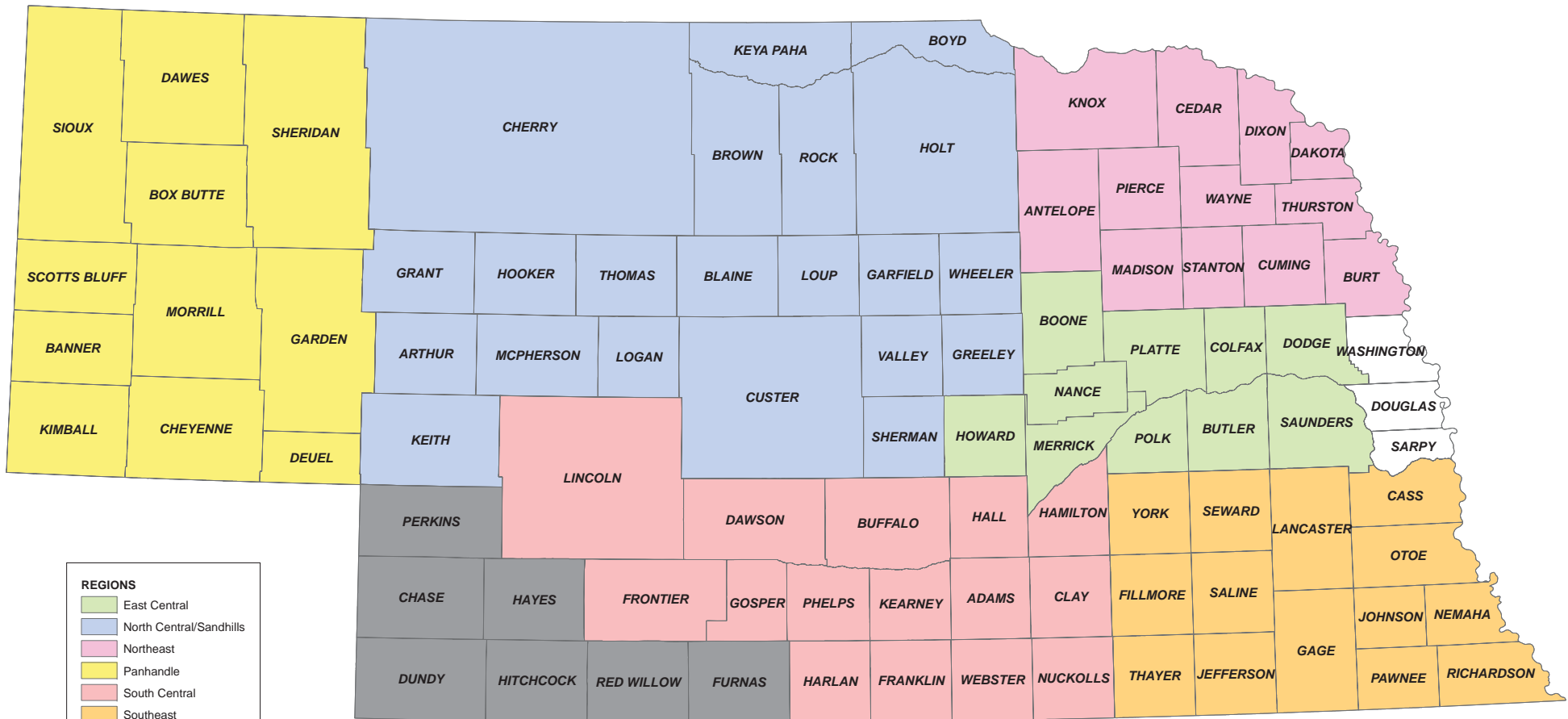
Universal Task List (UTL): 1,600 unique tasks that can facilitate efforts to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from the major events that are represented by the National Planning Scenarios. It presents a common vocabulary and identifies key tasks that support development of essential capabilities among organizations at all levels.⁶

³ National Preparedness Guidelines, 1

⁴ 2009 Nebraska Homeland Security Strategy and Goals, 1

⁵ National Preparedness Guidelines, iii

⁶ Ibid



REGIONS

- East Central
- North Central/Sandhills
- Northeast
- Panhandle
- South Central
- Southeast
- Southwest
- Tri-County

Regional PET

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EXECUTIVE ORDER
No. 12-01
ENHANCING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS –
Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council

WHEREAS, Nebraska recognized the importance of public safety and protection of public and private property throughout the state: and

WHEREAS, efficient emergency response is paramount to the safety of Nebraska's citizens and visitors, and for the protection of public and private property throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, emergency responders commonly rely upon radio frequencies and technologies that are often not planned or configured to be interoperable with other systems; and

WHEREAS, interoperable public safety communications between and within jurisdictions is critical to the mission of public safety; and

WHEREAS, the attainment of interoperable communications requires statewide coordination and leadership,

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Nebraska, I hereby establish the "Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council (hereinafter "NPSCC"). The NPSCC will function as a Council to operate under the guidance and direction of the State Homeland Security Director / State Wireless Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) with the following purposes and charges:

1. Provide for the policy level direction related to the planning and decisions regarding development, operation and sustainability of inoperability in the State of Nebraska;
2. Provide leadership regarding the development of public safety communications within Nebraska;
3. Adopt bylaws for the operation of the Council;
4. Promote interoperability for public safety communications within Nebraska, and with border states;
5. Provide recommendations for the development of protocols, standard operating procedures and guidelines for use of public safety communications systems in Nebraska;
6. Coordinate and provide planning, training and exercise opportunities related to communications interoperability for all necessary and authorized public safety practitioners;
7. Establish working groups, as required, to meet the needs of providing interoperability within Nebraska. NPSCC will provide guidance on recommendations that come from these working groups; and
8. Develop recommendations and strategies for best utilization of public funds, including grants, to improve public safety communications in Nebraska.

The NPSCC shall be comprised of a representative who has been vested by the appointing authority to represent the following agencies or organizations:

- a. A Nebraska State Patrol representative, who shall be appointed by the Superintendent of the Nebraska State Patrol;
- b. A Nebraska Game and Parks Commission representative, who shall be appointed by the Commission's Executive Director;
- c. A Nebraska Fire Marshal representative, who shall be appointed by the State Fire Marshal;
- d. A Nebraska Office of the Chief Information Officer representative, who shall be appointed by the Chief Information Officer;
- e. A Nebraska Emergency Management Agency representative, who shall be appointed by the Adjutant General;
- f. A Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) representative, who shall be appointed by the NPPD Chief Executive Officer;
- g. One Representative of each Nebraska PETCom Regions, who shall be appointed by their respective region;
- h. A Nebraska League of Municipalities Representative; and
- i. A Nebraska Association of County Officials Representative.

No members serving in any capacity on the NPSCC shall be entitled to any compensation or reimbursement for expenses incurred due to their membership on the NPSCC.

The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency will provide administrative support to the NPSCC. The NPSCC shall prepare an annual report for the Governor and the Nebraska Information Technology Commission. Such report shall contain a current assessment of the status of interoperability of public safety in Nebraska, as well as recommendations regarding improvements and enhancements to Nebraska Public Safety Communications.

I hereby order and direct that Executive Orders #08-03 and #08-04 be rescinded, effective as of 12:01 a.m. on October 18, 2012. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this 18th day of October, 2012.



Dave Heineman

Dave Heineman, Governor
State of Nebraska

Attest:

John A. Gale

John A. Gale, Secretary of State
State of Nebraska