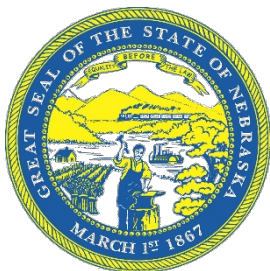


Nebraska Emergency Management/ Homeland Security Program



2022 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

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY HAS NO DATA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary	1
Investment Justification #1	4
Nebraska State and Regional Planning, Exercising, and Training (PET)	
Investment Justification #2	4
Nebraska Interoperable Communications	
Investment Justification #3	5
Nebraska Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Planning	
Investment Justification #4	6
Nebraska Agriculture Response and Recovery	
Investment Justification #5	7
Law Enforcement, Terrorism Prevention, and Hazardous Device Teams	
Investment Justification #6	8
Enhancing Information & Intelligence Sharing	
Investment Justification #7	9
Nebraska Citizen Corps Program	
Investment Justification #8	9
Nebraska Metropolitan Medical Response System	
Investment Justification #9	11
Cybersecurity	
Investment Justification #10	11
Enhancing the Protection of Soft Targets/Crowded Places	
Investment Justification #11	11
Community Preparedness and Resilience	
Investment Justification #12	12
Combating Domestic Violent Extremism	
Conclusion	12
Attachments	15

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY HAS NO DATA

State of Nebraska
Office of Homeland Security
2022 Status of the Nebraska Emergency Management/Homeland Security Program

March 1, 2023

Governor Jim Pillen
Lieutenant Governor Joe Kelly
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 FY2022 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 FY2022.

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 and sustain an emergency management/homeland security program that effectively leverages 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 FY2022 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 nine additional areas: Agriculture Response and Recovery, Law Enforcement and Terrorism Prevention (LETP)/Hazardous Device Teams (HDT), Enhancing Information & Intelligence Sharing (Fusion Center), Citizen Corps, the Metropolitan Medical Response System, Cybersecurity, Soft Targets/Crowded Places, Community Preparedness and Resilience, and Countering Violent Extremism.

The state and local jurisdictions remain 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. 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.

Grant Overview:

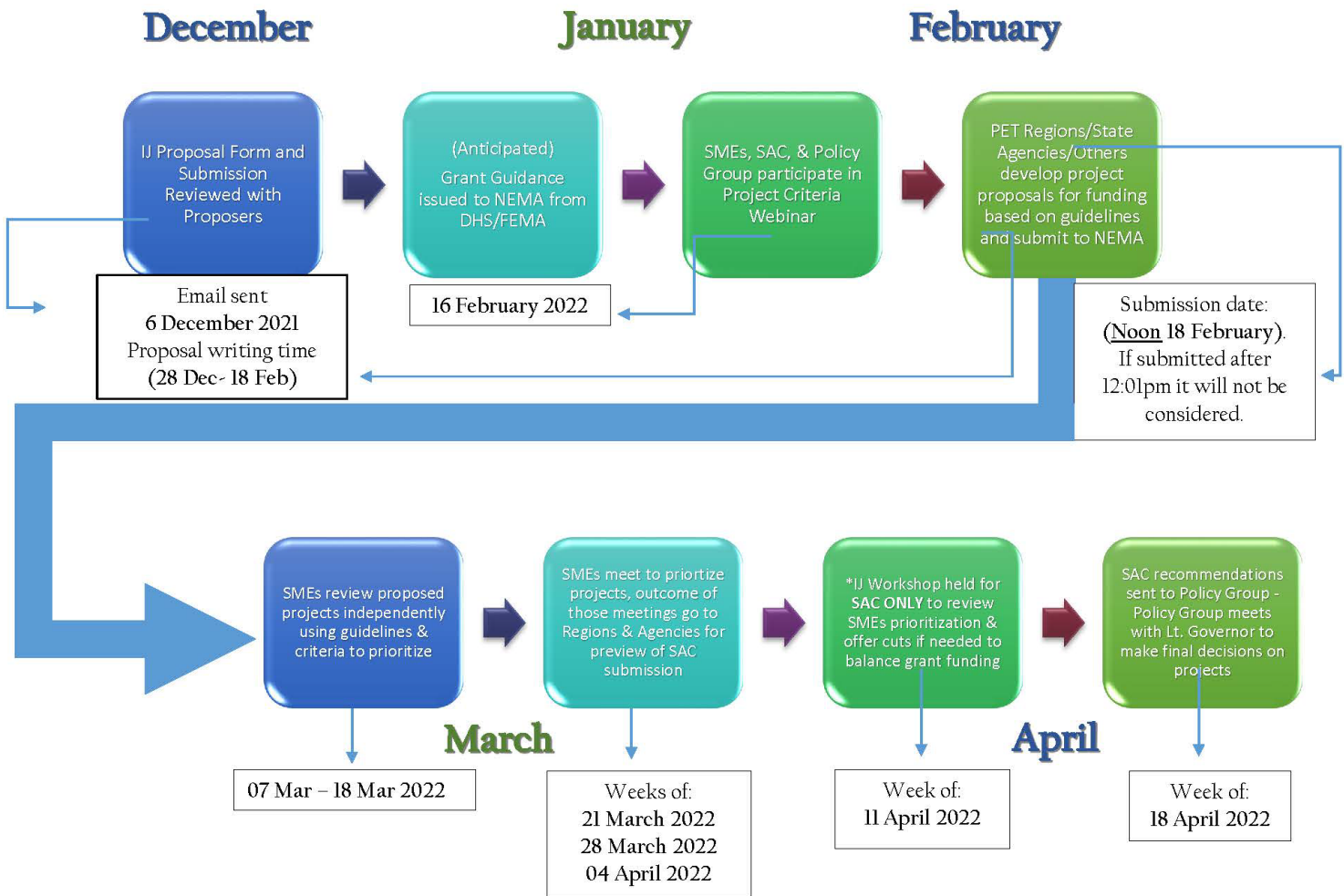
FY2022 funds were allocated based on three factors: 1) the congressionally mandated minimum amount, 2) DHS' risk methodology, and 3) anticipated effectiveness of the projects proposed, based on the strengths of the state's investment justifications. Based upon the submitted FY2022 investment justifications and the risk analysis for the state, Nebraska was awarded the congressionally mandated base line allocation of **\$4,847,500** for the SHSP. The state had no federally-designated UASI cities in FY2022, 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 2022 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 2022 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 2022 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.

2022 Investment Justification Process



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 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 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 12 primary investment justifications. What follows is a brief overview of these investment justifications.

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 Integrated Preparedness Planning Plan (IPP). The IPP is enhanced by the use of the threat and hazard identification risk assessment (THIRA) process, integrating state/regional public health 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.



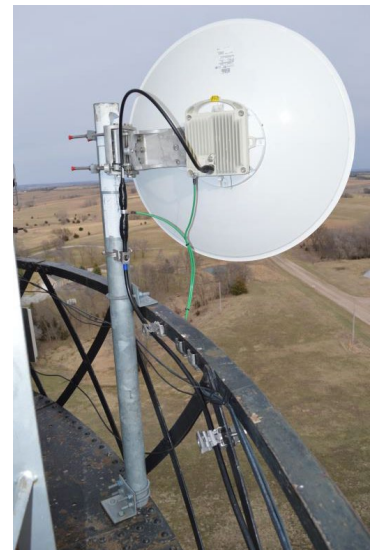
In 2022, Nebraska continued the core capabilities-based PET program, as the eight PET regions held trainings across the state, implemented the utilization of BOLDPlanning, putting all 93 of the local emergency operations plans (LEOP) on a secure web-based platform making them available to elected officials and first responders digitally. Training continued to focus on the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed for emergency management staff to be successful in day-to-day operations as well as during disaster operations. Through training the state was able to successfully deploy a type three incident management team once again in 2022 and deploy an incident management assistance team on 5 occasions during 2022, all to wildfires. The IMT/IMAT deployments allowed for real-world on-the-job training for individuals seeking credentials in various positions within the IMT format. Also, in 2022, numerous opportunities for in-person training were held that had been postponed or put off due to COVID-19.

As a new calendar year begins, following a busy wildfire season during 2022, Nebraska has again identified the continued need for coordinated stakeholder involvement as well as the need to reinforce the precepts of the National Incident Management System, while engaging multi-discipline stakeholders and 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.

Through executive order 12-01, the Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council (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 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.

During 2022, the NPSCC met four times to discuss interoperable communication problems as well as successes. Discussions this year turned to communications capabilities during disaster support. Again, this year, Nebraska had many wildfires and communications were tasked above and beyond what local government could sustain. True partnerships with Type I and Type II Federal Wildfire teams out of Colorado proved to be extremely successful as many Nebraska communication personnel worked side-by-side with their teams. Presentations were made to other committee members on the success of Nebraska's efforts.

The Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN) utilizes Homeland Security Grant funds to build out and sustain this network. The 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 Governance Board continues to maintain and monitor the network, in cooperation with the Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD). The governance board is made up of two representatives from each of the eight PET regions. The NRIN project works directly with the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator for Nebraska ensuring that statewide communications are coordinated, connected and compatible.

In 2022, grant dollars were used to further enhance the network, both software and hardware. Partnerships with other state agencies and public power districts were made to enhance equipment functionalities and to make monitoring much easier. Monitoring of each site requires a single log-in to each specific piece of equipment located in shelters or attached directly to a tower.

A big challenge for the future of the build-out of this network is the availability of appropriate equipment and the cost of shipping to get it to an actual site. Supply chains have had issues and most equipment is taking a year to get after ordering. The other challenge is perfecting the monitoring system so that alerts go to the appropriate personnel.

The goals for 2023 are to utilize these grant funds to work towards the completion of the Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN). A large part of this goal is to seek out redundant backup systems for this network other than microwave. There are many areas in the state where fiber is currently being utilized, and, there have been many discussions about utilizing FirstNet capabilities.

Investment Justification #3: Nebraska Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Planning

The official, State-managed response to hazmat incidents in Nebraska dates back to 1999 when NEMA established agreements with ten local fire departments to create a hazardous materials response network that can immediately address, stabilize, mitigate, and prepare for hazmat incidents within the state. Since then, this network has expanded into new areas and additional functions, to continue developing, improving, and streamlining a robust, multi-layered strategy for responding to hazardous material-related events.

One important aspect of this network is the Nebraska Hazardous Incident Team (NHIT), a set of hazmat technicians and partners from an array of agencies including the State Fire Marshal Agency, the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy, and the Nebraska State Patrol. They are positioned strategically for as rapid a response as possible to incidents throughout Nebraska. The State has maintained agreements with nine of the original ten fire departments, to continue providing entire units of professionals should additional capacity or expertise be needed. Additionally, the Nebraska National Guard has extensive hazmat response and support capabilities through the 72nd Civil Support Team (CST) and Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP) team.



These local departments and teams have been a truly valuable resource during disaster events of recent years, most notably during certain wildfires in 2021 and 2022 which threatened or impacted agricultural installations, buildings, and other facilities which house various chemicals and products.

Our hazmat response community continues to train to the highest of standards, including those set by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), OSHA, and the EPA, and Nebraska’s local departments and teams have used their training in national events to expand their expertise and showcase their skills.

Moving forward, training, readiness, and safety continue to be the top priorities for all partners and cooperating agencies, with the collective goal of expanding this network further into Nebraska’s local communities.

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 2022, SHSP partially funded the LEDRS Conference, which was held in Kearney, NE, August 9-10. The conference presented information on topics such as Secure Beef Supply Plans, RFID technology, NBAF Update, Disease transmission in Feed and a presentation of the new Swine Depopulation trailer. LEDRS continues to get participants credentialed, according to policy for emergency response activities. This year, three 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.

The COVID-19 Pandemic continues to emphasize 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 and Western Hemispheres, and recent emerging disease 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 and the 2019 flooding that NDA 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 the goal of NDA to have most ICS positions relevant to an animal disease response staffed 3 deep within the department.

Investment Justification #5: Law Enforcement, Terrorism Prevention, and Hazardous Device Teams

Improvised explosive device (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 Nebraska State Patrol, Omaha Police Department, 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 ordnance response team comprised of full-time and part-time personnel, many of whom have combat IED experience. While their primary mission deals with ordnance, they could be used for IED response. Awarded Homeland Security funds have allowed the NSP bomb squad to replace aging X-Ray systems that are carried in all six-response vehicles. NSP was also able to attend several trainings in the state involving multiple bomb squads.



Nebraska's bomb squads continue to train and enhance capabilities with specialized equipment obtained through the grant process. The purchase of detection and protective equipment, as well as training, through grant funding has assisted the squad in another year of no injuries or fatalities to squad members or the public. The NSP Bomb Squad has been tasked with joining a newly formed regional FBI response team to train and respond to radiological dispersal devices and improvised nuclear devices.

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, proficiencies and advanced techniques. Law enforcement in general, but specifically the bomb squads, are challenged in the enforcement of explosive/IED-related statutes. 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: Enhancing Information & Intelligence Sharing

The Fusion Center process is carried out by the Nebraska Information Analysis Center (NIAC) and is intended to facilitate the flow of intelligence information and 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 NIAC integrates data from many state and local data sources, including the Nebraska State Patrol (NSP), Lincoln Police Department, Omaha Police Department, 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.

During the 2021-2022 fiscal year the NIAC faced a wide range of challenges, and effectively met and responded to those events. In March 2022, the NIAC assisted with a large-scale search operation that involved several dozen law enforcement officers from multiple agencies, as well as numerous volunteers, and covering approximately 1100 acres. Throughout the operation, the NIAC had two analysts and a research manager embedded at the command post, as well as a third analyst stationed offsite, all assisting with grid-mapping of the search area, search team area assignments, and recording locations of possible evidence found. NIAC analysts also worked closely with the State of Nebraska Attorney General's Office on several cases that resulted in multiple arrests and convictions by providing case support, reviewing of evidence, and testifying in court. Analysts with the NIAC continue to provide counter threat support to local, state, and federal partners.

The NIAC continues to develop private partner participation through outreach and innovative initiatives. Working closely with University of Nebraska, Lincoln, the NIAC has continued a push to partner with school districts across Nebraska to share information to assist in identifying and analyzing potential threats before they become a mass causality event. The NIAC spearheaded the move to a new cost saving intelligence database system referred to as NITE (Nebraska Intelligence & Threat Exchange). This database was developed "in-house" and went online in mid-2022. NIAC and NSP IT personnel continue to resolve minor bugs and are working to develop a training course for partner use.

The NIAC has hired two new crime analysts, a cyber analyst, and a research manager during fiscal year 2021-2022. Retaining long term senior analysts continues to be a major challenge due to other state and local law enforcement agencies offering much better pay, benefits, and advancement opportunities for the same position/classification.

Investment Justification #7: 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 2022, Nebraska Citizen Corps continued to be actively involved in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Citizen Corps groups played an integral role in COVID-19 vaccine clinics in their local areas, while assisting local health departments with contact tracing and distribution of the Strategic National Stockpile and supporting local supply chains.

Local Citizen Corps programs also focused on offering trainings to help their communities become more resilient and prepared to respond to a variety of incidents and support local emergency management efforts. Throughout 2022, teams provided training on: volunteer reception centers, hands-only CPR, rapid shelter team setup/shelter management, stop-the-bleed, pet owner disaster preparedness, psychological first aid (PFA), disaster communications with radios, best practices in supporting the disabled in disasters, as well as community emergency response team (CERT) courses.

In 2023, Nebraska Citizen Corps will continue to build statewide disaster response capacity by supporting and growing existing teams, provide technical assistance for the creation and development of local Citizen Corps programs within Nebraska communities, and facilitate and assist in State Citizen Corps Council activities.

Investment Justification #8: Nebraska Metropolitan Medical Response System

The MMRS program is specifically targeted to the Omaha Metropolitan Healthcare Coalition (OMHHC) region, including Cass, Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy, Saunders, and Washington counties. 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 is still activated as of this date. While the Healthcare Unified Command (HUC) is no longer actively meeting, the OMHCC Coordinator provides a written weekly update and maintains the Incident Action Plan (IAP). The ad-hoc COVID-19 Infection Prevention/PPE Reuse Workgroup has now become a standing OMHCC Workgroup and is still meeting. The OMHCC attends the weekly meetings of the State's Medical Emergency Operations Center (MEOC).

In the last year, the OMHCC has increased its signed agreements from 48 to 56, going from 63 to 70 member organizations covered by these agreements. The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services has also expanded the OMHCC boundaries to now include Cass County. The OMHCC has also increased the number of OMHCC Representatives (10 in total) available to assist during an incident, adding to OMHCC's continuity of operations planning.

The OMHCC's current role in the pandemic is focused on information sharing. In the last year, the OMHCC has obtained Essential Elements of Information (EEI) submitted by OMHCC hospitals 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 the required data for OMHCC's federal partners. One major change this past year was the change over



from Knowledge Center to the Juvare platform. The OMHCC has facilitated several admin and end-user trainings with more to come in the new year. EEI data is shared with hospital, HUC, and local/state government partners in a daily report and a spreadsheet with facility-specific information included.

The OMHCC is in the process of developing a new website that will have a password-protected side for OMHCC member organizations.

The OMHCC Communications Workgroup revised the Standard Operating Procedures and policies for OMHCC 800MHz radios purchased with SHSG funds. The OMHCC has changed the primary, secondary, and tertiary cache sites for these radios. Please see the OMHCC Preparedness and Response Plan for more information.

The OMHCC Coordinator was on the planning committee, presented at, and attended the Midwest Resilience and Emergency Preparedness conference on 9-26 and 9-27. Also, thanks to SHSG funding, the OMHCC Coordinator was able to attend the 2022 National Healthcare Coalition (HCC) Preparedness Conference. This conference provided the opportunity to learn best practices, network with other professionals, and collaborate on ways to improve planning. Information was presented from federal, state, and local jurisdictions across the nation.

The ongoing challenges healthcare facilities have experienced in the last year (i.e. patient surge due to COVID, RSV, and flu; staffing shortages; capacity issues; etc.) may have an ongoing impact to their willingness to participate in exercises. Another challenge is the ongoing logistics and inventory of the OMHCC resource cache. Although severely depleted in 2020, the OMHCC still has a considerable number of assets in facilities and warehouses. Thanks to SHSG funding, the OMHCC has purchased a label printer and has been provided access to Salamander. The OMHCC Coordinator and Equipment and Resource Workgroup Chairs have developed a plan to initiate use of this new system as the inventory management system for OMHCC.

Investment Justification #9: Cybersecurity

Cybersecurity planning, operational communications, and operational coordination, are consistently identified as high priorities across the State. Most of the counties across Nebraska lack technical personnel to assist during an attack, resulting in State resources being requested during a down period, as no backup plans have been formed to mitigate against the virtual risk. The priority gaps addressed in this investment are: risk identification, vulnerability reduction, continuity of operations, and basic security & controls. Historically, when data breaches occur, the cost to those affected is high. This enhanced effort will focus on training staff, understanding who is and what is on networks, protecting the data, and planning for resiliency, including cyber incident response plans at both State and local levels.

In 2022, the Nebraska National Guard 179th Cyber Protection Team brought together local, state, and federal agencies, along with public utilities, private industries, and other international partners for a first-of-its-kind joint cybersecurity exercise called Cyber Tatanka. The goal of the exercise was to strengthen the nation's defenses for infrastructure and businesses. To further address cybersecurity shortfalls, local projects consist of: Continuation of Phishing training and testing of an additional 400 e-mail users from last year's investment in the East Central Region; Nebraska State Patrol Computer lab - Graykey and Cellebrite Premium forensic extraction tools; Cybersecurity and Situational Awareness project in the Southeast which will consist of a Table Top functional communications exercise using ICKC for 14 counties; and in Tri-County Region – Network Access Control Project (NAC) to mitigate the security risk of rough and malicious devices entering the IT network at any point.

Investment Justification #10: Enhancing the Protection of Soft Targets/Crowded Places

This investment addresses the core capabilities of operational coordination, intelligence and information sharing, interdiction and disruption, access control, and physical protective measures. Concerts, sporting events, schools, fairs, farmers' markets, transportation systems, etc., are soft targets and crowded places that are easily accessible to large numbers of people, and often have limited security or protective measures in place. Through these investments, we will be better prepared to prevent attacks on the public and protect against acts of violence, active assailants, or bombings.

There exist realistic mass casualty threats to crowds that have been realized both domestically and internationally. Projects consist of a real time x-ray for bomb technicians with a real time x-ray diagnostic system to evaluate threats in crowded places while on foot and independently from the response vehicle, detection and identification equipment to monitor air quality, detect for bio-chemical agents, and other weapons of mass destruction for the safety of responders, the public, and the environment. The South Central PET region's purchase of Sentinel One will provide continued security auditing/monitoring and enhance cybersecurity capabilities for police, fire, 911 center, sheriff's dept., and detention center networks. The Tri-County PET region will purchase a specialized wired device that attaches to existing portable radios and cell phones (multiple of each) at the same time --enabling monitoring and talking on multiple devices simultaneously.

Investment Justification #11: Community Preparedness and Resilience

The National Health Security Strategy (NHSS) (HHS, 2009) identifies community resilience as critical to national health security, i.e., ensuring that the nation is prepared for, protected from, and able to respond to and recover from incidents with potentially negative health consequences. Given that resources are limited in the wake of an emergency, it is increasingly recognized that communities may need to be on their own after an emergency before help arrives, and thus need to build resilience before an emergency. Resilience is also considered critical to a community's ability to reduce long recovery periods after an emergency, which can otherwise require a significant amount of time and resources at the Federal, State, and local levels.

Projects under this investment include: providing NOAA weather radios to minority, vulnerable and hard-to-reach populations across both Southeast and Tri-County PET regions. which will increase overall community preparedness and resilience. It ensures those most vulnerable to life-threatening severe weather will be better prepared due to the advance notice provided by a NOAA weather radio. Another project provides for a resiliency coordinator in the East Central PET region, with a focus on lower income areas, especially non-English speaking individuals, as those areas have been determined to need resources and education, and have limited resilience capability to recover or overcome issues.

Investment Justification #12: Combating Domestic Violent Extremism

This project features enhancement of knowledge and capabilities in Nebraska to detect and intervene when behaviors indicative of potential violence either motivated or influenced by extremism are present. Planning and consultation services will be made available to multi-disciplinary threat assessment partnerships in schools, government organizations, and communities across the state. Additionally, mental health professionals forming the Nebraska Violence Risk Assessment Cadre will be prepared to integrate assessment of behaviors motivated or influenced by extremist ideologies or tactics in their consultation with crisis teams, law enforcement, and other threat assessment teams.

The University of Nebraska Public Policy Center (NUPPC) will continue to lead the project and add the following activities to the project over two years. 1) Using the DHS framework for building local prevention frameworks, NUPPC will work with state agencies, (NEMA, NE DHHS, NSP, Crime Commission, NDEE) to convene local stakeholders regionally with the goal of inventorying targeted violence prevention programming and activities. 2) Products produced using 2021 SHSGP funding will be widely disseminated in Nebraska and new public awareness material developed designed to ensure bystanders know about locally available resources inventoried in stakeholder meetings. 3) Modular online courses will be developed to familiarize law enforcement and social service professionals with threat assessment concepts, specifically what to do if they receive a report about concerning (not criminal) behavior. The course will be brief and no-to-low cost (less than \$10). Materials and lessons learned from this project will be disseminated via the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and the National Counterterrorism Innovation, Technology, and Education Center (NCITE) of which NUPPC serves as an affiliate.

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 FY2022 are in early implementation stages. 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 is evident 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 702 and 739 fires. The fact that Nebraska now has enough qualified, credentialed, individuals from across the state to staff an ad hoc 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, federal funds support 100% of the state’s administrative costs, and 20% of the state’s programmatic costs, of the homeland security and emergency management program. These funds also support up to 80% of the local emergency management programs across the state. As budgets continue to tighten at all levels of government, it is almost certain that the state will be asked to determine the level of support we should continue to give toward the state’s homeland security program. Reductions in funding would eventually lead to extended timelines for the completion of on-going 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



Ervin Portis
NEMA Assistant Director
DHS State Administrative Agent

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY HAS NO DATA

Attachments:

2022 State Homeland Security Grant Allocations Table
FY2022 SHSP Allocations by Investment Justification
FY2022 SHSP Allocations by PET Region
Nebraska PET Regions Map
Acronyms and Terms

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY HAS NO DATA

2022 Homeland Security Grant Allocations

Region	Citizen Corps	LETPP/HDT	Comm	PET - LOCAL	MMR	HazMat	National Priorities			Totals
							Enhancing CyberSecurity	Enhancing the Protection of Soft Targets / Crowded Places	Enhancing Community Preparedness & Resilience	
East Central	\$10,955.00	\$7,800.00		\$37,600.00			\$55,000.00		\$144,921.00	\$256,276.00
North Central		\$32,250.00	\$38,624.00	\$36,798.00						\$107,672.00
Northeast		\$39,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$86,055.00						\$175,055.00
Panhandle	\$13,000.00	\$299,800.00	\$12,075.00	\$64,000.00				\$60,230.00		\$449,105.00
South Central	\$16,000.00	\$124,000.00	\$68,485.00	\$93,547.00			\$28,000.00	\$6,000.00		\$336,032.00
Southeast	\$15,000.00	\$12,700.00	\$12,000.00	\$42,400.00			\$10,000.00		\$75,010.40	\$167,110.40
Southwest	\$11,850.00		\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00						\$55,850.00
Tri-County	\$86,195.00	\$70,940.00		\$177,600.00	\$10,000.00		\$75,000.00	\$82,865.00	\$10,193.60	\$512,793.60
Lincoln Co - Statewide HazMat Team						\$255,870.00		\$81,030.00		\$336,900.00

**Total
\$2,396,794.00**

Agriculture	\$88,000.00
Statewide Citizen Corps Coordinator & Conference	\$35,000.00
National Priority - Enhancing Information & Intelligence Sharing (Fusion Center)	\$320,000.00
NSP Project - Geospatial Information System (GIS)	\$30,510.00
NSP Project - Graykey & Cellebrite Premium	\$177,187.50
NE Regional Interoperability Network	\$697,321.00
National Priority - Combating Domestic Violent Extremism	\$345,187.50

**Total
\$1,693,206.00**

Represents 80% Total Award to Local Units of Government \$4,332,375.00 *

**To the Local Share, NEMA contributed \$242,375*

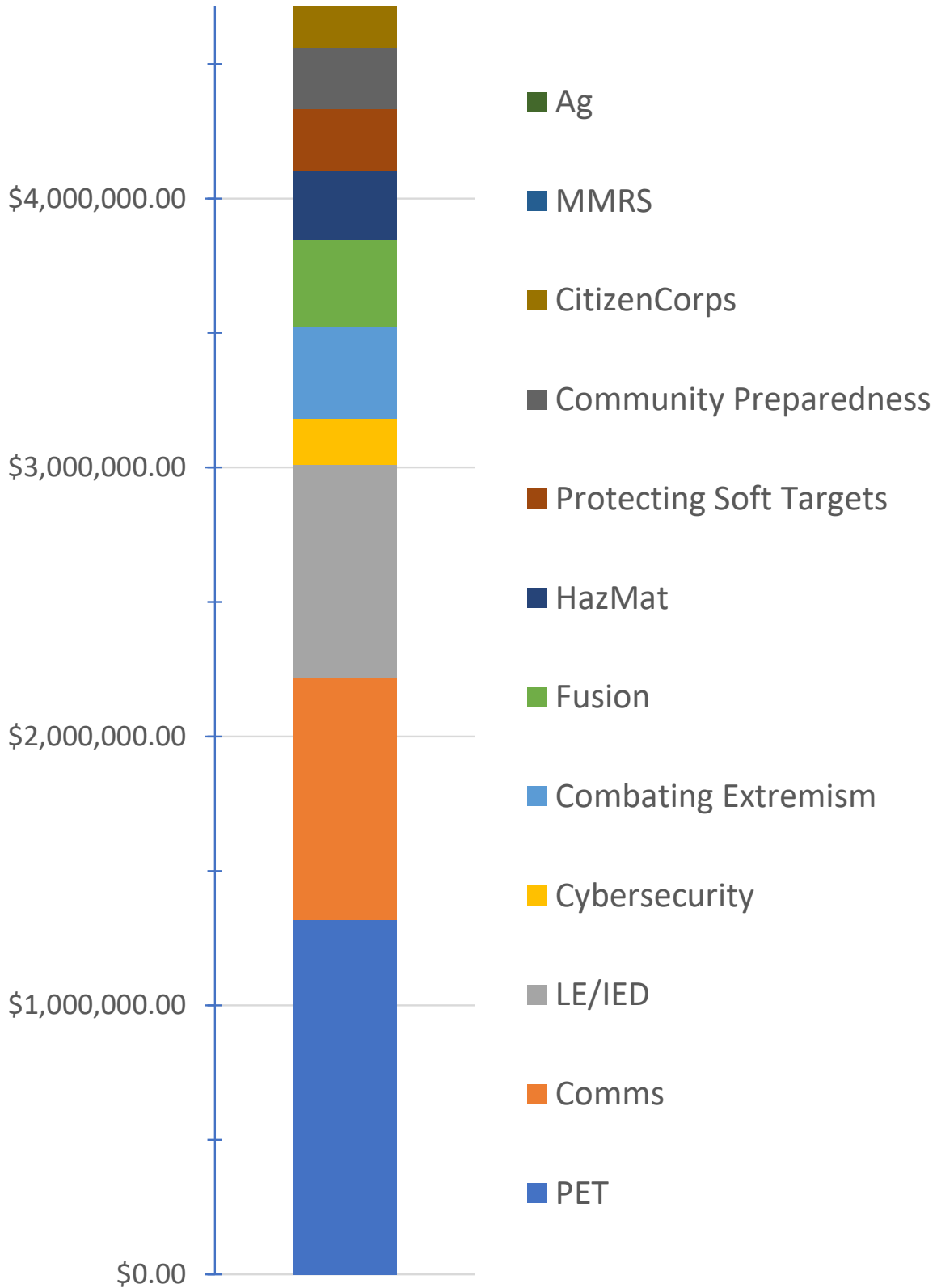
Remaining 20% is retained at the State Level as per Grant guidance \$515,125.00 **

**NEMA - \$515,125 - funding is allocated to PET programming, and Management & Administration of the grant

Total Grant Award \$4,847,500.00

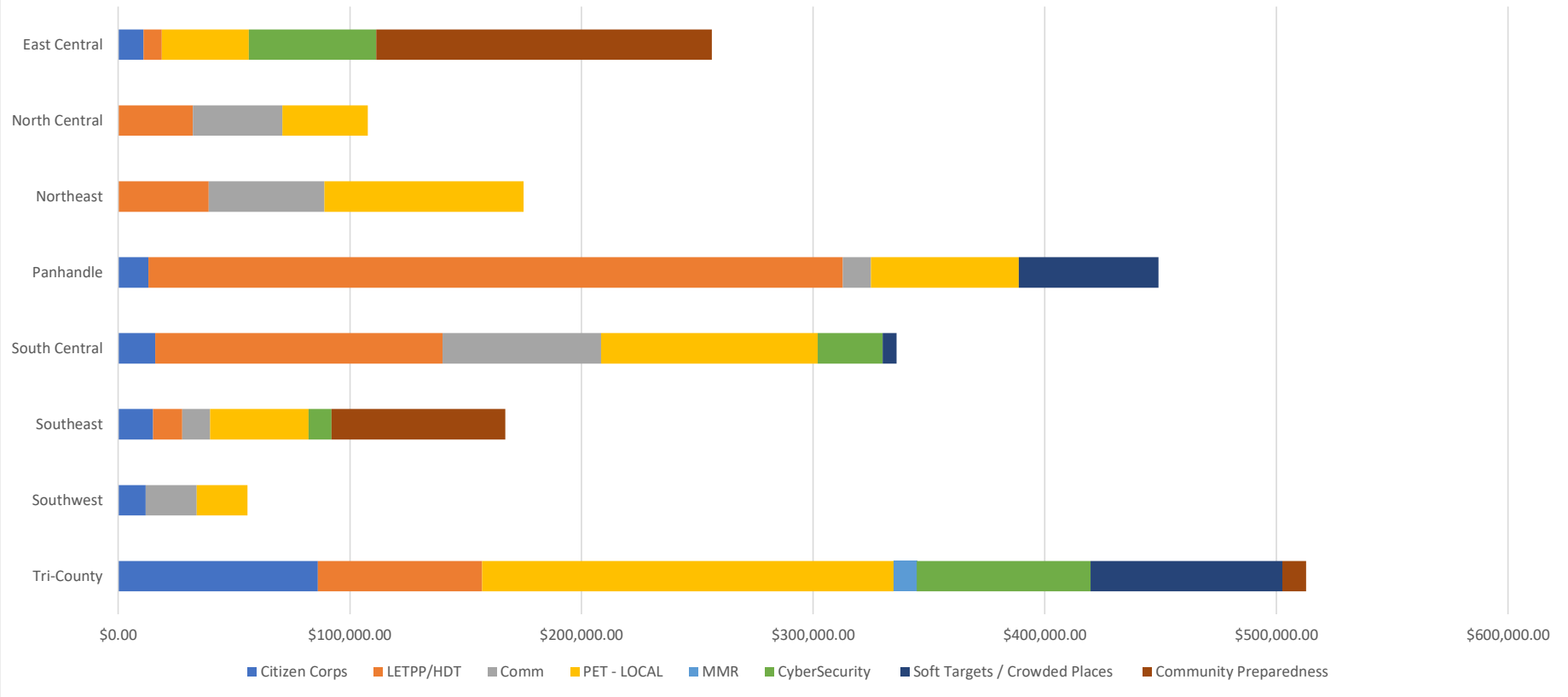
THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY HAS NO DATA

FY2022 SHSP Allocations by Investment Justification



THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY HAS NO DATA

FY2022 SHSP Allocations by PET Region



THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY HAS NO DATA

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 planning

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.

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

NEMA: Nebraska Emergency Management Agency

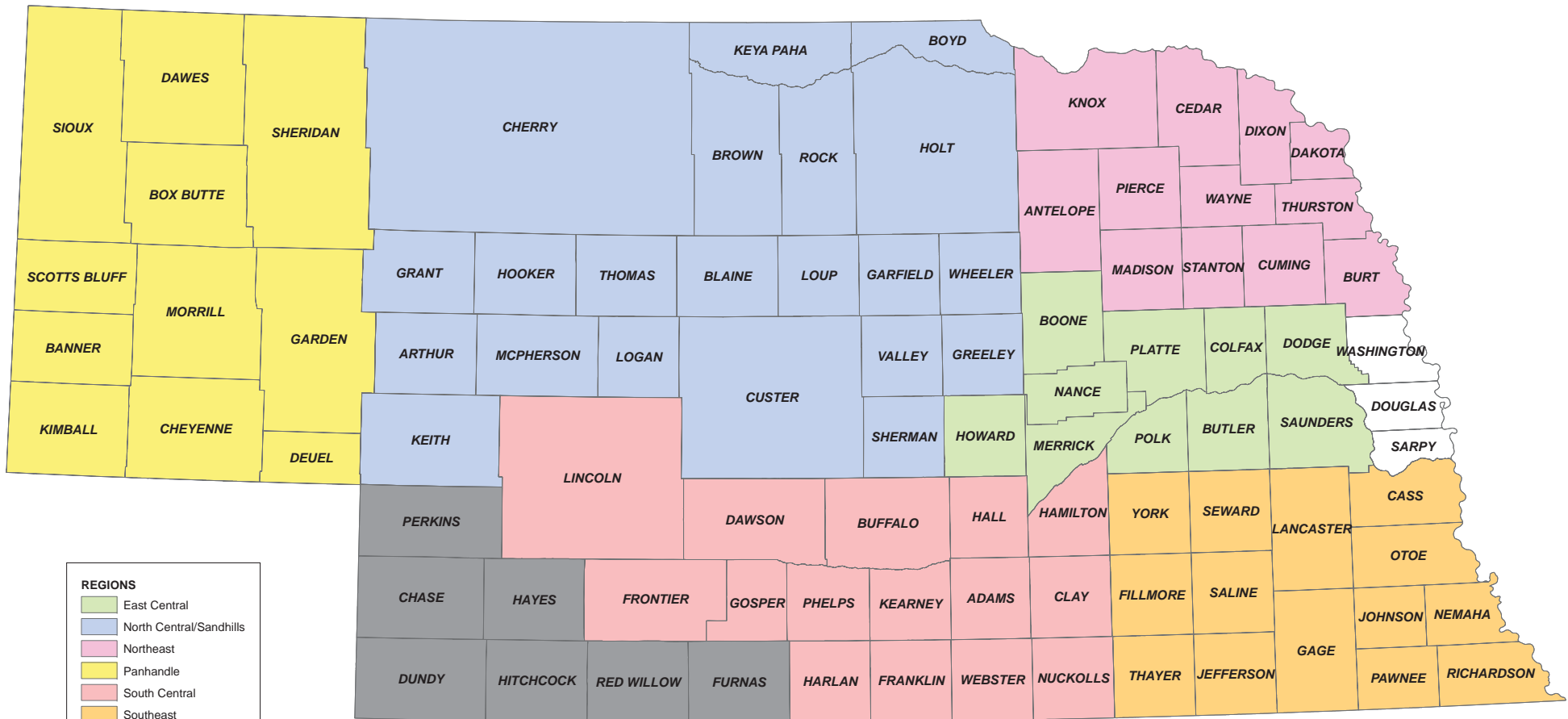
PET: Planning, Exercise and Training

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.

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.



REGIONS

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

Regional PET

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY HAS NO DATA