LRGVDC's HSAC FY 2019-20 HSGD APPROVED ACTIVITY AREAS

Based on the current regional needs, the HSAC (Homeland Security Advisory Committee) selected the following approved activity areas to focus on for the FY 2019-20 funding cycle. Grant projects for LRGVDC COG-21 region must be submitted in support of one of the following approved activity areas:

Critical Infrastructure

i. Implementing target hardening and other measures associated with increased security at critical infrastructure sites including backfill and overtime to staff emergency operations centers and contracted security at critical infrastructure sites.

ii. Identifying critical infrastructure, collecting and maintaining data, and prioritizing critical infrastructure assets, clusters, and systems.

iii. Assessing critical infrastructure vulnerabilities and interdependencies, particularly those involving multiple sites and/or sectors.

iv. Planning, training, exercises, equipment, and modeling enabling responsible jurisdictions to mitigate threats to and vulnerabilities of critical infrastructure facilities, assets, networks, and systems.

v. Analyzing critical infrastructure threats and information sharing with private sector partners.

vi. Enhancing public awareness education and communications and increasing reporting of suspicious activities related to critical infrastructure.

Interoperable Emergency Communications

i. Building capabilities to meet P-25 standards.

ii. Sustaining existing capabilities (e.g. life cycle replacement of equipment).

iii. Projects must enhance current capabilities or address capability gaps identified by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) or Texas Interoperable Communications Coalition (TxICC) in either the Texas Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) or DPS Report on Interoperable Communications to the Texas Legislature. Note: Projects to increase voice communications interoperability for counties with the lowest interoperability levels are preferred over other types of communications projects.

iv. If a project is funded (once an agency receives a grant award), the planned expenditures must be submitted to and receive validation from the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) prior to purchase. Note: Radios purchased must: a) follow the Statewide Radio ID Management Plan; b) be programmed following the Statewide Interoperability Channel Plan, and c) include encryption options capable of Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) encryption, IF encryption is being purchased.

Sustaining Special Response Teams and First Responder Capabilities

i. Sustaining and enhancing capacity to detect and resolve threats involving chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive (CBRNE) devices or weapons of mass destruction (WMD).

ii. Sustaining and enhancing tactical teams including HAZMAT response and decontamination, Urban Search and Rescue, and SWAT.

iii. Sustaining equipment needs, including personal protective equipment, WMD pharmaceuticals, calibration and maintenance for WMD-related detection and identification systems, and closely related investments to update or sustain current equipment.

iv. Sustaining and enhancing efforts to delay, divert, intercept, halt, apprehend, or secure threats or hazards (includes capabilities related to Border Security).

v. Coordinating regional training exercises with federal, state and local law enforcement participation focused on responding to terrorism-related events and increasing participation with community and business organizations.

vi. Identifying or locating terrorists through active and passive surveillance and search procedures including systematic examinations and assessments, bio-surveillance, sensor technologies, or physical investigation and intelligence.