Request for Homeland Security Preparedness Projects

Each year, the Northeast Homeland Security Regional Advisory Council (NERAC) receives an allocation of funding from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) through the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) to improve the capability for the 85 municipalities in the Northeast Region to prevent, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism and other public safety emergencies. As part of NERAC's strategic budgeting process for the upcoming fiscal year (FFY2020), the Council has elected to solicit project ideas from the whole community for inclusion in the budget.

If you have a project idea that you would like to have funded for the region, please use the form on the following page to explain and justify the project. Projects will be evaluated based on the scoring matrix shown on page 3. Eligible projects may include trainings, exercises, equipment purchases, consulting services, planning efforts, and infrastructure development.

NERAC anticipates having access to this funding on or about December 1, 2020 until July 31, 2022. All projects that are submitted must be able to be completed within this timeframe. For more immediate needs, please consider submitting a standard Funding Request Form, available from www.NERAC.us or amurray@mapc.org.

In order to be considered, all projects MUST:

1. Provide a regional benefit to a minimum of three (3) municipalities.
2. Have a clear connection to homeland security/anti-terrorism (projects may serve a dual-purpose of improving preparedness for natural disasters as well but must also have a clear connection to terrorism).
3. Have the primary purpose of supporting homeland security needs for non-routine events, rather than day-to-day operational needs.

Please Note:

- Organizations or municipalities requesting NERAC funding must be able to demonstrate that the Massachusetts Tactical Channel Plan has been implemented into their radio systems, to the extent possible based on the technical capabilities of the system.

- NERAC may require that funding requests of over $15,000.00 be justified either in writing or in person to the Council. If your organization or municipality plans to submit a request for more than $15,000.00, please be prepared to provide a written statement or make a brief presentation at the following meeting justifying the expense. Even if additional information is requested by the Council about a project, the Council reserves the right to partially fund or reject any and all requests.

> **NERAC Full Council Meeting**
> Thursday, March 12th, 2020 @ 1:00pm
> Burlington Town Hall (29 Center Street, Burlington, MA 01803)
> 2nd Floor Main Hearing Room

Project Request Forms must be submitted by **March 10th, 2020 at 5:00pm** to Austin Murray at amurray@mapc.org and/or Caroline Graham at cgraham@mapc.org

Project Request Form

Project Name:	
Project Contact Name / Phone Number / Email:	
Project Summary *Please explain in detail how this project will be implemented, including all equipment and services that will be purchased.*	
Project Cost *Please outline the total cost of the project and include a breakdown of the unit cost of each portion (i.e. equipment, BF/OT, consultant fees, etc.)*	$
Regional Need *Please describe how a homeland security capability will be sustained or improved as a result of this project.*	
Supporting Documentation *Please describe (and attach) any documentation from after action reports, state/federal guidance, or other professional guidance/ endorsements that support the need for this investment.*	
Regional Impact *Please explain the geographical area and/or number of municipalities that will directly benefit from this investment.*	

Plan for Sustainability *Please address plans for sustaining the capabilities developed through this project, its expected lifespan (if applicable), and funding sources other than NERAC that will be used for maintenance and upkeep (if applicable).*	
Need for Supplemental Funding *Please justify the necessity of grant funding for this project by explaining why it cannot be implemented using other funding sources.*	
Other Funding Sources *Please identify any other funding sources identified for this project, including other grant programs, contributions from key stakeholders, and/or internal contributions.*	
Project Timeline/Schedule *Please explain the status of this project in the overall planning process (new idea, fully developed, continuation of a past project, etc.), and the expected timeline for planning, implementation, and review.*	

Project Evaluation Criteria

Basic Eligibility Criteria		
All projects must at least meet this criteria in all 3 categories to be considered.		
Would this project provide a regional benefit (3 or more municipalities)?	Yes	No
Does this project idea have a connection to homeland security/anti-terrorism?	Yes	No
Would this project fulfill or support a homeland security need as opposed to a day-to-day operational need?	Yes	No

Project Evaluation Criteria			
Category	1	2	3
Project Cost	This project is not affordable given the number of municipalities that would benefit from it.	This project is moderately financially efficient based on the number of municipalities that would benefit from it.	This project is affordable and financially efficient based on the number of municipalities that would benefit from it.
Regional Need	This project would not improve or sustain a homeland security capability.	This project would provide some improvement or sustainment to a homeland security capability.	This project would provide a substantial improvement to or effectively sustain a homeland security capability that is considered critical based on the current threat environment.
Supporting Documentation	No supporting documentation was provided.	Relevant supporting documentation that somewhat effectively states the need for this investment based on past events and/or other documented best practices was provided.	Multiple relevant supporting documents that clearly and effectively state the need for this investment based on past events and/or other documented best practices were provided.
Regional Impact	This project would provide a direct benefit to 5 or less of NERAC's 85 municipalities.	This project would provide a direct benefit to 6-50 of NERAC's 85 municipalities.	This project would provide a direct benefit to 51-85 of NERAC's 85 municipalities.
Sustainability	The capability(s) developed through this project will not be able to be sustained.	Sustaining the capability(s) developed through this project will require some additional funding.	Sustaining the capability(s) developed through this project will require no additional funding.
Need for Supplemental Funding	The application does not demonstrate the need for supplemental grant funding to be used to complete this initiative.	The application demonstrates some need for supplemental grant funding to be used to complete this initiative.	The application clearly demonstrates the need for supplemental grant funding to be used to complete this initiative.
EOPSS Priorities	This project does not align with any of the FFY2020 priorities established by EOPSS.	This project aligns with one of the FFY2020 priorities established by EOPSS.	This project aligns with more than one of the FFY2020 priorities established by EOPSS.