



Mayor
Daniel Lurie

Department of Emergency Management

1011 Turk Street, San Francisco, CA 94102



Mary Ellen Carroll
Executive Director

To: Mayor Daniel Lurie

From: Mary Ellen Carroll, Executive Director, Department of Emergency Management

Date: December 16, 2025

Re: Resolution Approving the 2025 Bay Area Urban Areas Security Initiative
Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

AGENDA ITEM: Bay Area Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Memorandum of Understanding

LEGISLATION FOR APPROVAL: The proposed resolution seeks the Board of Supervisors approval for the continuation of a regional Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City and County of San Francisco, the cities of Oakland and San Jose, and the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Monterey, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Sonoma for the application, allocation and distribution of federal Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant funds.

BACKGROUND:

The United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has a Homeland Security Grant Program, which includes the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) Program. This program addresses the unique planning, equipment, training, and exercise needs of high-threat, high-density "Urban Areas" and assists those areas in building an enhanced and sustainable capacity to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from threats and acts of terrorism. DHS requires each Urban Area receiving grant funds to establish an Urban Area Working Group (UAWG) to act as an executive steering committee and provide overall governance of the UASI Program across the regional area encompassed within the defined Urban Area.

In 2006, the core cities and counties of the Bay Area Urban Area (San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose, Alameda, and Santa Clara) entered into an MOU setting forth their agreements regarding the objectives, governance structures, responsibilities, and financial agreements to use in applying for, allocating, and distributing UASI grant funds to the Bay Area Urban Area, and establishing the Bay Area UASI Approval Authority as the oversight body and the UAWG of the Bay Area Urban Area. The 2006 MOU designated the City and County of San Francisco as the "primary" grantee, and the fiscal agent for UASI funds.



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After the expiration of the 2006 MOU, the parties entered into MOUs in 2007, 2011, 2013, 2017, and 2021. Several other Bay Area agencies have been added as members to the Approval Authority in subsequent MOUs. The City and County of San Francisco has been a party to the MOU since 2006.

The current MOU, adopted in 2021, will expire on November 30, 2025, and it is necessary for the member agencies to enter into a new MOU. The Bay Area UASI Management Team prepared and presented the 2025 MOU at the September 18, 2025 meeting of the Approval Authority of the Bay Area UASI. The Approval Authority unanimously approved the proposed 2025 MOU to be forwarded to all member agencies' governing bodies for approval and execution.

ANALYSIS:

The proposed 2025 MOU provides governance structures and procedures for application, allocation, and distribution of federal UASI grant funds to the Bay Area Urban Area, as well as other grants that are managed by the Bay Area UASI. The primary grantee and fiscal agent of the Bay Area UASI, under the proposed MOU, continues to be the City and County of San Francisco. The term of the proposed MOU is December 1, 2025 through November 30, 2030.

Mary Ellen Carroll, San Francisco Department of Emergency Management Executive Director, currently serves as the Primary Representative for the City and County of San Francisco and as the Chair of the Bay Area UASI Approval Authority. The City and County of San Francisco also have another representative from the San Francisco Fire Department and an alternate from the San Francisco Police Department.

The Bay Area UASI receives close to \$30 million annually for the UASI grant program. For FY25 the target grant allocation amount to the Bay Area UASI is \$32,451,685. Of this amount, the City and County of San Francisco will receive approximately \$15,717,455 that is allocated to San Francisco Department of Emergency Management, San Francisco Fire Department, San Francisco Police Department and San Francisco Sheriff's Department. These grant funds cover personnel costs, disaster planning efforts, equipment for first responders, trainings across multiple disciplines, conduct of large-scale regional exercises, and management and administration expenses.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This MOU lays out the governance structure of the Bay Area UASI and does not have an associated fiscal impact, other than allowing for signing parties to enter into grant subawards once funds have been received by the Bay Area UASI from the California Office of Emergency Services. The cost of administering the grant funding is nominal and covered by the management and administration expenses provided under the grant.



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CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA):

This action is not a project within the meaning of CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines and therefore is not subject to CEQA. Specifically, this item involves only the organization and administrative activities of the Bay Area UASI, and will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the Board of Supervisors adopt a resolution authorizing the City and County of San Francisco to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the cities of Oakland, San Jose, and the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Monterey, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Sonoma.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution
2. Proposed 2025 MOU