

LAS VEGAS URBAN AREA WORKING GROUP

Clark County Fire Administration
575 E Flamingo Rd., 2nd floor, MACC
Las Vegas, NV 89119

DRAFT MINUTES

Wednesday, August 6, 2025

1:00 PM

UAWG ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brian O'Neal, Thomas Touchstone, Jennifer Wyatt, Carolyn Levering, Ben Erickson, Ana Chavez, Diana Clarkson, Greg Chesser, Misty Robinson, Harry Dubray, and Bryan Ostaszewski.

ALTERNATES PRESENT:

Michelle Thackston, Jeremy Hynds, David Milewski, Andria Webster, Ryan Turner, Jeff Quinn, Diane Orgill.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jayson Andrus, Warren Hull.

I. Call to order

Brian O'Neal, UAWG Chair called the meeting to order.

II. Roll Call

Quorum Present.

III. Public Comments

Pam Koceski suggested ordering food due to the length of the meeting. Katya Collins requested attendees state their names for the record.

IV. Comments from the Chair

The Chair stated that this is the UASI 2025 Special Meeting to determine the funding levels that will be distributed across the valley. The allowable cost for the UASI program generally falls into five main categories: planning, organization, equipment, training and exercises.

All projects funded under UASI must demonstrate a clear connection to building capabilities that prevent, prepare for, protect against, or respond to acts of terrorism. Funding guidelines established within this grant support four of the five mission areas prevention, protection, mitigation, and response, and across all core capabilities and address sustaining capabilities and addressing gaps identified in the THIRA and SPR process.

EHS and FEMA expect that national priorities will continue to be included in the future years, evolving as threats change and capability gaps are addressed. Applicants are strongly encouraged to begin planning now to sustain existing capabilities using funding sources other than DHS Preparedness grants. This grant program and this funding source need to evolve as threats evolve.

We cannot encumber too much funding into sustaining progress programs that may work today but that aren't future proof and aren't responding to future threats. We, as a body, must be very deliberate and make sure that we are looking towards the future and looking towards the threats that we are confronted with tomorrow. The definitions that we will be using today are maintain, which is the support or maintenance of something; enhance, which is intensifying, increase or further improve the quality or something; and new, any new project. We have required spending project limits that include funding for election security and funding for border security, and we have a few maintenance projects.

V. Review and discuss FFY 2025 Homeland Security Grant Program Submissions.

- **Project J - CCFD Elections Security, \$332,000.00**
Project is scalable.
- **Project AB – Fusion Center Update and Expansion, \$896,000.00**

Maintenance Projects:

The following projects were approved last year. They were identified earlier in the process to move on to a maintenance cycle if the funding stayed within 10% of the previous year's allocations.

- **Project F** – Southern Nevada CERT Volunteer Program, \$122,058.00
- **Project G** – Southern Nevada Community Emergency Response Team, \$294,963.37
- **Project Q** – Southern Nevada Incident Management Team, \$45,000.00
- **Project S** – THIRA/SPR, \$30,000.00
- **Project AJ** – SNCTC Drone Ops Center, \$436,500.00
- **Project AK** – SNCTC Sustain for \$1,970,314.00

LVMPD agreed to take a reduction to \$1,600,419.00.

- **Project AO** – UASI Sustain ARMOR Warranties, \$70,000.00.
- **Project AD** – LVMPD Coordinated Tactical Emergency Response, \$115,300.00.
- **Project AE** - LVMPD Cyber Program for \$124,000.00.
- **Project AP** – SNHD Public Health Preparedness Analyst for \$63,378.00.

The Chair addressed Project AP stating there was an agreement made last year to decrease the funding for the project overtime and will be discussed during the presentation.

Clark County Elections Department, Manager of Election Administration Dan Kulin, presented the following project:

- **Project J – CCFD Elections Security - \$332,000.00,**
The project is scalable and was reduced to \$270,000.00.

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department/Counter Terrorism Center, Assistant Sheriff Dori Koren, presented the following projects:

- **Project AB – Fusion Center Update and Expansion, \$896,500.00,**
This project will allow space expansion, modernizing of the equipment, furniture and expansion of security partnerships. Carolyn Levering inquired whether two of the projects listed as forward eligible on the applications could be combined. Individually, neither meets the 10% threshold required, but together, they would significantly exceed it. She suggested the possibility of combining the two projects and then reducing the total by approximately \$50,000.00. This adjustment would allow them to meet the 10% requirement while preserving some capital. Carolyn also asked whether any portion of the project would be deemed ineligible under the border security category. The response was that no part of the project would be considered ineligible.
- **Project AD – LVMPD Coordinated Tactical Emergency Response - \$115,300.00.**
This project may return in the future to request additional equipment funding. Carolyn Levering inquired whether the project could be reduced to comply with the 10% rule. After discussion, the group agreed to reduce the budget to \$101,300.00.
- **Project AK – SNCTC Sustain - \$1,970,314.00.**
The project is scalable and was reduced to \$1,600,419.00.

- **Project AO – UASI Sustain – ARMOR Warranties - \$70,000.00.**

No additional comments

- **Project AE – LVMPD Cyber Program - \$124,000.00.**

Ben Erickson asked whether the project was a training platform or actual software. It was clarified that it is software. Jeremy Hynds noted that the project was removed from the grant process last year, with plans for LVMPD to fund it either through their own account or the cybersecurity grant. Anna Chavez responded that the project was moved to the cybersecurity grant, but since the grant has not been awarded, it is now being reconsidered for UASI funding.

- **Project AJ – SNCTC Drone Operations Center - \$436,500.00.**

This project was proposed last year but lacked sufficient funding for its completion. The drone program is now being implemented at four fire stations, three counties, and one city location. Valued at \$20 million, the project is primarily funded through private donations. During the discussion, Misty Robinson asked whether the project would request additional UASI funding next year once completed. Sheriff Koren responded that no further funds would be required to finalize the project, though a smaller request for ongoing maintenance costs may be submitted in the future.

City of Las Vegas, Emergency Manager Carolyn Levering, presented the following projects:

- **Project F – Southern Nevada CERT Volunteer Program - \$124,129.60.**

No additional comments.

- **Project G – Southern Nevada Community Emergency Response Team - \$294,963.37.**

No additional comments.

- **Project E – Emergency Alerting Mass Notification - \$87,515.81.**

The 2% increase in this project is contractual.

Clark County Fire Department/Office of Emergency Management, Deputy Fire Chief/Emergency Manager Brian O' Neal, presented the following projects:

- **Project S – THIRA/SPR - \$30,000.00.**

Carolyn Levering asked if \$30,000.00 would be enough to switch to the proposed platform. The cost could increase as the last quote received was \$40,000.00.

- **Project Q – Southern Nevada Incident Management - \$45,000.00.**

This funding is for one part-time position and minimal operational expenses.

Southern Nevada Health District, Misty Robinson presented the following project:

- **Project AP – SNCTC SNDH Public Health Preparedness Analyst - \$126,756.00.**

Carolyn Levering asked whether the \$22,000 increase exceeding the 10% limit was due to personnel costs or if equipment was involved. Misty Robinson confirmed it was solely personnel costs. Carolyn then inquired if the increase could be reduced to 10%. After discussion between Jeff Quinn, Diana Clarkson, Chief O'Neal, and Misty Robinson, the group agreed to lower the project cost to \$94,540. It was noted that this reduction could result in the position becoming part-time.

New Projects:

Clark County Coroner Project

- **Project O – Coroner Mobile CT, \$700,000.00.**

Diana Clarkson inquired whether the project was scalable. The response was no, as it will fund only one piece of equipment, with radiological support services for ongoing maintenance and upkeep included in the budget. This capability does not currently exist in Southern Nevada.

Ben Erickson questioned who would operate the equipment, given the shortage of pathologists. The response was that forensic technicians could operate it, with final analysis conducted by a forensic pathologist. The office currently contracts with 17 pathologists nationwide who can access the system remotely via PAC to provide readings if local staff are unavailable.

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department/Counter Terrorism Center, Assistant Sheriff Dori Koren, presented the following projects:

- **Project AA – DSD Border Security, \$330,000.00.**

This project was removed from consideration.

- **Project AI – SNCTC DOC Project, \$431,000.00.**

No additional comments.

- **Project AN – UASI Enhance ARMOR Robot, \$620,000.00.**

The project is expected to seek additional funding next year due to ongoing counterterrorism cases in Southern Nevada. Two of three robots—Titus (2020), M5 (2005), and Wolverine (2005)—will be replaced. Diana Clarkson noted no funding has been provided in over 20 years, and Sheriff Koren stated no further robot requests are anticipated soon. Ben Erickson was informed that other robots are in service, each assigned to specific missions.

- **Project AG – LVMPD SWAT Overwatch Program, \$40,000.00.**

No additional comments.

- **Project AF – LVMPD Incident Communications, \$300,000.00.**

Project is scalable to \$250,000.00.

Jeremy Hynds asked if the project would replace Titan HST communication. It was clarified that Titan HST is a small-scale instant messaging platform primarily used by executive management. Jeremy also inquired whether a platform had been selected and was told no decision has been made.

- **Project AC – LVMPD CIKR Perimeter Robotics, \$240,000.00.**

No additional comments.

- **Project AM – ARMOR Hazmat Capabilities, \$372,000.00.**

Project is scalable.

Diana Clarkson asked about prioritizing ARMOR projects, noting the importance of funding. Sheriff Koren stated that project “AN” is the top priority, followed by project “AM,” which is scalable.

- **Project AL – ARMOR Critical Response, \$142,000.00.**

This project is third in priority with some flexibility but eventually will have to come back for more funding.

- **Project AH – RTCC Infrastructure Updates, \$980,000.00.**

This project is the last priority and can be scalable for a \$330,000.00 reduction.

City of Las Vegas Department of Public Safety, Chief Jason Potts presented the following project:

- **Project H – Real Time Detection and Intelligence Integration for Soft Target Protection, \$1,101,500.00.**

Project is scalable and reduced to \$750,000.00.

Ana Chavez asked about expanding the footprint within the fusion center and coordinating with LVMPD, noting the existing Flock contract. Chief Potts explained it would be more efficient to directly control the cameras while still contributing to the fusion center. Ana also asked if funding requests would be made annually. It was confirmed the current request covers a two-year contract, with future requests every two years. The request was reduced to \$750,000 for the two-year performance period.

The City of Henderson presented the following projects:

- **Project A – EM EOC and Alternate EOC Upgrades, \$140,000.00.**

Presented by Emergency Manager Diana Clarkson. Project is scalable and was reduced to \$106,500.00.

- **Project B – Fire Tethered Drones, \$189,219.00.**

Danny Serrano, Operations Battalion Chief, City of Henderson Fire Department, presented this project. Project is scalable, project was reduced to \$126,146.00.

Ana Chavez asked how many drones were in service and how often they had been deployed. It was reported there is only one drone, with deployment figures unavailable. Ben Erickson asked if the City of Henderson Police Department had similar drone technology, which it does not.

- **Project C – Police Armored SWAT Vehicle, \$473,193.00.**

Benson Harper, Captain, Operation Support Division. A \$33,585 reduction was considered but determined to limit safety capabilities, so the full request was maintained as a city priority. Ana Chavez asked how the vehicle was previously purchased, and it was confirmed it was funded through this grant in 2011. Jeremy Hynds asked if general funds or CIP were allocated, and it was confirmed there were none. Chief O'Neal asked if a replacement was scheduled, and it was confirmed there was not.

- **Project D – Utilities Back-Up Generator, \$371,172.00.**

Rob Warfield, Security Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, Department of Utility Services, presented this project. While not scalable, it could be reduced to one generator instead of two, which would lower capabilities. In response to a question, it was confirmed that contracts exist for temporary generators, but not for units of this size. Jeremy Hynds asked if backup generators are in place at the facilities, and it was confirmed that each lift station has generators, but the requested units are needed for the pumping stations. After discussion, the project was scaled to \$217,490 to purchase one unit.

The City of North Las Vegas presented the following project:

- **Project I – NLVFD Decon Enhancement Program, \$203,500.00.** Chief Ben Erickson, Office of Emergency Manager, City of North Las Vegas Fire Department introduced John Wright, Special Operations Chief, to present this project. Diana Clarkson asked if this capability already exists within other jurisdictions. The answer was no, there are decontamination facilities, but this project will do a preset decontamination line at live events. There was some discussion about the equipment being shared with other jurisdictions, the equipment is compatible with the decontamination facilities.

Clark County presented the following projects:

- **Project K – CCFD Mobile Command Vehicle, \$150,000.00.**
Misty Richardson and Chief DePue presented this project. Erickson asked the age, and it was confirmed as 2005.
- **Project L – CCFD Portable Showers & Toilets, \$110,000.00.**
Chief Brian O'Neal, Office of Emergency Manager, presented this project. Jeremy Hynds asked if the project was qualifiable under UASI. The answer was yes, it could be used in several different scenarios, including terrorism attacks or bombing. Diana Clarkson asked if there are contractors or anybody else within the valley that has this resource that we could leverage. The answer was yes; Clark County Social Services department has.
- **Project M – CCFD Rescue Mannequins HAC.** Project was removed.
- **Project N – CCFD Tethered Drone, \$146,500.00.**
Chief Thomas Touchstone presented this project, noting it could be reduced to \$120,000 and is scalable to \$60,000. Chavez asked if this would overlap

with drones being installed by Metro in Clark County Fire Stations. It was discussed that the drones support different types of responses, and further discussion will occur.

Diana Clarkson asked about the difference between tethered drones and Metro's drones, and it was confirmed that tethered drones are deployed with command, are not limited by flight time or distance, and can be used as long as needed. Diana also asked if these drones would integrate with the fusion center program, and it was confirmed they would, providing video feeds and access to field elements.

It was asked if similar projects could be combined for better pricing, and Chief O'Neal responded that Ellen Curtis would likely be the brand used, though bulk discounts were uncertain. He noted there may be access to each other's drone feeds.

It was suggested that four tethered drones be purchased under UASI, with two for Clark County and two for another jurisdiction. The discussion also noted price differences between mobile and vehicle-mounted platforms, and concerns about maintenance, liability, and contract ownership, which may prevent combining projects under contractual rules.

- **Project P – Shelter Trailer, \$40,000.00.**
Cheryl Nagy, Clark County Office of Emergency Management. No additional comments.
- **Project R – Submersible Pumps, \$200,000.00.**
Project is scalable.
- **Project T – Chemical Feed Site Cameras, \$35,455.50.**
Jessica Rodriguez, Clark County Water Reclamation District. Project is scalable to \$21,273.30.
- **Project U – Critical Infrastructure Mobile Trailer Cameras, \$75,600.00.**
Jessica Rodriguez, Clark County Water Reclamation District, presented the project, which can be reduced to \$37,800.00. A question was raised regarding the possibility of purchasing these cameras through SNCPC for situational awareness and monitoring purposes.

It was clarified that the cameras are leased, and the company providing them does not permit purchase. Diana Clarkson inquired about the sustainment plan and prior funding. Skye Dunfield explained that the intention is to budget for

this project in the future, and that leasing the cameras now demonstrates their importance for future inclusion in the budget.

- **Project V – STRAX Cameras, \$336.00.**

Jessica Rodriguez, Clark County Water Reclamation District. Diana Clarkson asked if the software depended on project approval or existing cameras, and it was confirmed it supports cameras already installed. Skye Dunfield added that while this is not a one-time request, the functionality may be incorporated into the operations budget in the future.

The City of Las Vegas presented the following projects:

- **Project W - Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS), Maintain, \$425,750.00.**

Joseph Digaetano, Battalion Chief, City of Las Vegas Fire & Rescue, presented this project. Diana Clarkson asked how it had been funded and what occurred last year. A mistake was made on last year's grant application, and the project has historically been funded through MMRS and previously through DHS.

Diana Clarkson questioned whether the increasing utility was related to expiration. All helmets are expired, and the plates will expire within the next few years. The department expects to request additional funds at a reduced amount when that occurs.

Ben Erickson asked how the plates and helmets are distributed across the valley and organizations. Distribution is by department and proportional to size.

- **Project X – Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS), New, \$55,200.00.**

Collin Sears, EMS Coordinator and MMRS Operations Manager, City of Las Vegas Fire & Rescue, presented this project. Diana Clarkson questioned whether the drone was tethered; it was not. Jeremy Hynds asked if the project was under MMRS or Las Vegas EMS, and it was confirmed under MMRS. He then asked if the use case was for MMRS or first on scene, and it was explained the drone would go with the EMS Captain or EMS Coordinator, making the capability immediately available. Jeremy stated it should be under the EMS side of Las Vegas Fire & Rescue.

Chief Erickson inquired how many additional drones are available for Las Vegas Fire & Rescue, and it was noted none are available for suppression. He also asked if the pilot would be the EMS Captain, and the answer was yes.

- **Project Y – Las Vegas Valley Air-Monitoring Equipment Upgrade, \$449,794.00.**
Randy Willbanks, Battalion Chief, Special Operations, City of Las Vegas Fire & Rescue, presented this project. The project is not scalable, and the equipment will be for specialty teams. Jeremy Hynds asked if the ARMOR equipment was the same as requested in another project; it was not.

He then questioned whether it was a supplement to existing equipment. Sergeant Milewski responded that for technical identification, the equipment falls under the hazmat line item for the task force. The group discussed avoiding duplication and established that one request was under the chemical critical response and the other for the hazmat team.

- **Project Z – Bomb Response 2025, \$695,000.00.**
Karl Rossette, City of Las Vegas Fire & Rescue Bomb Squad, presented this project. The project was reduced to \$618,000. Erickson asked about the size of the vehicle, and it was confirmed to be an EOD BombCat. The City of Las Vegas handles maintenance, but the department may return in ten to fifteen years for a replacement vehicle.

VI. Ranking

The voting and ranking went as follows:

- **Thomas Touchstone, Clark County**

- A – 22
- B – 14
- C – 15
- D – 2
- H – 16
- I – 1
- K – 3
- L – 26
- N – 13
- O – 19
- P – 27
- R – 11
- T – 4
- U – 5
- V – 20
- W – 9
- X – 21
- Y – 10

- Z – 18
- AC – 17
- AF – 12
- AG – 8
- AH – 23
- AI – 6
- AL – 24
- AM – 25
- AN – 7

- **Carolyn Levering, City of Las Vegas**

- A – 5
- B – 19
- C – 15
- D – 6
- H – 1
- I – 7
- K – 17
- L – 13
- N – 16
- O – 14
- P – 12
- R – 18
- T – 9
- U – 8
- V – 27
- W – 4
- X – 26
- Y – 3
- Z – 2
- AC – 25
- AF – 22
- AG – 11
- AH – 20
- AI – 10
- AL – 24
- AM – 23
- AN – 21

- **Ben Erickson, City of North Las Vegas**

- A – 10

- B – 20
- C – 4
- D – 17
- H – 25
- I – 1
- K – 2
- L – 12
- N – 3
- O – 11
- P – 8
- R – 26
- T – 5
- U – 24
- V – 14
- W – 6
- X – 21
- Y – 9
- Z – 15
- AC – 22
- AF – 7
- AG – 18
- AH – 16
- AI – 27
- AL – 19
- AM – 13
- AN – 23

- **Ana Chavez, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department**

- A – 18
- B – 17
- C – 12
- D – 15
- H – 27
- I – 13
- K – 9
- L – 24
- N – 10
- O – 20
- P – 19
- R – 21
- T – 16

- U – 22
- V – 14
- W – 11
- X – 26
- Y – 23
- Z – 25
- AC – 5
- AF – 4
- AG – 3
- AH – 8
- AI – 1
- AL – 7
- AM – 6
- AN – 2

- **Diana Clarkson, City of Henderson**

- A – 6
- B – 5
- C – 2
- D – 4
- H – 20
- I – 10
- K – 15
- L – 25
- N – 9
- O – 22
- P – 16
- R – 17
- T – 19
- U – 27
- V – 12
- W – 1
- X – 26
- Y – 3
- Z – 21
- AC – 23
- AF – 13
- AG – 11
- AH – 24
- AI – 7
- AL – 18

- AM – 14
- AN – 8

- **Misty Robinson, Southern Nevada Health District**

- A – 6
- B – 8
- C – 4
- D – 19
- H – 25
- I – 1
- K – 13
- L – 26
- N – 7
- O – 18
- P – 20
- R – 27
- T – 22
- U – 16
- V – 2
- W – 3
- X – 24
- Y – 5
- Z – 12
- AC – 21
- AF – 11
- AG – 23
- AH – 10
- AI – 14
- AL – 9
- AM – 17
- AN – 15

- **Diane Orgill, VOAD**

- A – 13
- B – 15
- C – 1
- D – 16
- H – 22
- I – 3
- K – 4
- L – 21

- N – 9
- O – 5
- P – 7
- R – 23
- T – 6
- U – 10
- V – 27
- W – 14
- X – 12
- Y – 11
- Z – 20
- AC – 19
- AF – 17
- AG – 24
- AH – 25
- AI – 26
- AL – 18
- AM – 8
- AN – 2

Harry Dubray with Las Vegas Paiute Tribe was present in the meeting, but did not vote due to unexpected medical condition.

Approved Projects:

- E, Emergency Alerting Mass Notification, \$87,575.81.
- F, Southern Nevada CERT Volunteer Program, \$124,129.60
- G, Southern Nevada Community Emergency Response Team, \$294,963.37.
- J, CCFD Elections Security, \$270,000.00
- Q, Southern Nevada Incident Management, \$45,000.00
- S, THIRA/SPR, \$30,000.00.
- AB, Fusion Center Update and Expansion, \$895,889.60.
- AD, LVMPD Coordinated Tactical Emergency Response, \$101,300.00.
- AE, LVMPD Cyber Program, \$124,000.00.
- AJ, SNCTC Drone Ops Center, \$436,500.00.
- AK, SNCTC Sustain, \$1,600,419.00.
- AO, ARMOR Warranties, \$70,000.00.
- AP, SNCTC SNHD Public Health Preparedness Analyst, \$94,540.00
- I, NLVFD Decon Enhancement Program, \$195,747.32.
- W, Metropolitan Medical Response System, 405,750.00.
- C, Armored SWAT vehicle, \$473,193.00.
- K, CCFD Mobile Command Vehicle, \$150,000.00.

- Y, Las Vegas Valley Air-Monitoring Equipment Upgrade, \$449,794.00.
- N, CCFD Tethered Drone, \$60,000.00.
- AN, Enhancement ARMOR Robot, \$620,000.00.
- D, Utilities, Back Up Generators, \$217,490.00.
- A, EM EOC and Alternate EOC Upgrades, \$106,500.00.
- T, Chemical Feed Site Cameras, \$21273.50.
- AF, LVMPD Incident Communications, \$300,000.00.
- AI, SNCTC DOC Project, \$431,000.00.
- B, Tethered Drones, \$126,146.00.
- AG, LVMPD SWAT Overwatch Program, \$40,000.00.
- AM, ARMOR Hazmat Capabilities, \$312,000.00.
- O, Coroner Mobile CT, \$350,000.00.
- P, Shelter Trailer, \$40,000.00.
- U, Critical Infrastructure Mobile Trailer Cameras, \$37,800.00.

Motion to approve the funding of the projects by (inaudible), seconded by Ben Erickson, no further discussion, **MOTION APPROVED.**

VII. Public Comments

No comments.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion by Misty Robinson: **To adjourn the meeting.** Second, Diana Clarkson, no discussion, **MOTION APPROVED.** Meeting adjourned.

Next scheduled UAWG Meeting: November 13, 2025, at 11:00 A.M. hybrid via Microsoft Teams or in-person at the Clark County MACC.