



City of Cincinnati

August 5, 2009

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

From: Milton Dohoney, Jr., City Manager

Subject: **EMERGENCY ORDINANCE – FEMA HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT**

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

AUTHORIZING the City Manager to apply for, accept and appropriate a grant of approximately \$1,200,000.00 from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, for the purpose of providing funding for the Cincinnati Police Department to acquire an Underwater Remotely Controlled Vehicle, two outboard motor boat engines, wireless remote controlled surveillance cameras and alarm system for bridge infrastructure, office construction for Real Time Crime Center supervision, and air conditioning and ventilation for the Real Time Crime Center.

This emergency ordinance would authorize the City Manager to apply for, accept and appropriate a grant of approximately \$1,200,000 from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency. The funds will be used for the Cincinnati Police Department to acquire an Underwater Remotely Controlled Vehicle, two outboard motor boat engines, wireless remote controlled surveillance cameras and alarm system for bridge infrastructure, office construction for Real Time Crime Center supervision, and air conditioning and ventilation for the Real Time Crime Center.

The Underwater Remotely Controlled Vehicle can be used by the Police Department's Marine Patrol to search for and recover evidence, Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), or Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs) attached or adjacent to critical infrastructures or densely populated areas along the riverfront. Two outboard motor boat engines are needed to replace existing motors that overheat and stall.

Two critical bridges, servicing the outer interstate highway system are situated too far from the monitoring center to be serviced by a hardwire camera and alarm system. A series of wireless remote operated cameras is proposed to monitor potential terrorist or criminal activities.

The Police Department has created a Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) situated within the department's Emergency 911 Dispatch Center. One of the primary functions of the RTCC is the monitoring of security cameras and infrastructure alarms situated on or along the Ohio River shoreline. The heat generated from the additional electronic monitoring equipment has dramatically increased the temperature inside the operation room. Additional air conditioning and ventilation is needed to accommodate the increased strain due to heat. Supervisory space is necessary to accommodate the additional staff associated with the creation of this newly formed operation.

The grant does not require local match funding. There is no FTE increase associated with this grant.

This emergency ordinance would also authorize the Finance Director to deposit the grant funds into the Law Enforcement Grant Fund 368.

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to meet the grant application deadline and to ensure proper funding mechanisms are in place at the earliest possible time.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

cc: Lea D. Eriksen, Budget Director

Attachment