

Brian Sandoval
Governor



James Wright
Director

Christopher B. Smith
Chief

Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security
2478 Fairview Drive Carson City, Nevada 89701 <http://dem.nv.gov>

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Gail Powell
Public Information Officer
Nevada Department of Public Safety
Emergency Management/Homeland Security
775-687-0325 or gpowell@dps.state.nv.us

Media Advisory

Nevada Commission on Homeland Security Approves 2014 Homeland Security Grant Program Projects

Carson City, NV - Governor Brian Sandoval, Chairman of the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (NCHS), along with 16 voting members unanimously approved the funding allocations for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2014 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) projects.

During the March 21, 2014 NCHS meeting, commissioners determined the top five priorities for investments to be funded with the approximately \$4.5 million awarded to the state of Nevada by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Based on the DHS funding criteria, the top five priorities for the state were identified.

1. Cyber Security (Mission area: Protection)
2. Intelligence and Information Sharing (Mission area: Prevention)
3. Public Information and Warning (Mission area: All)
4. Operational Coordination (Mission area: All)
5. Operational Communications (Mission area: Response)

Chief Chris Smith from the Nevada Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security provided an overview on the process and outcome of the April 15 and 29, 2014, Homeland Security Working Group (HSWG). Smith praised the efforts of the group comprised of 30 people from state and local jurisdictions and the collaborative process used to determine what was best for Nevada. The HSWG identified 24 projects to be funded and submitted the recommendations to the Homeland Security Finance Committee. There were a total of 18 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) projects totaling \$3,546,350 and six Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) projects totaling \$950,000.

Chief Stacey Giomi, Finance Committee Vice-Chair, Carson City Fire Department, provided a briefing on the results of the May 12, 2014, Finance Committee meeting. Giomi reiterated the success of the process adopted by the working group and the budget recommendations presented to the committee based on the funds awarded. Vice-Chair Giomi made the recommendation to the commissioners to approve the 24 projects ranked by priority for final approval.

The commission unanimously approved the FFY 2014 final budget recommendations.

Several community related projects supported through the approval process for funding to adequately fulfill the state's priorities are recapped below.

Schools Prepared And Ready Together Across Nevada (SPARTAN)

To sustain operational coordination of Nevada School Districts, as well as private and charter schools, statewide through a comprehensive plan. Specifically this project is to provide a statewide forum to coordinate operational plans and share lessons-learned.

Public Warning and Public Information

To strengthen the procedures by coordinating crisis communication plans used for public information and warning for Nevada public safety officials and citizens statewide efficiently during an incident.

Statewide Citizen Corps Programs

To develop, improve, expand and support the state council with a wide array of organizations in the non-profit, faith-based, volunteer, and private sectors to distribute key information to a large segment of the population.

Citizen Corps programs assist with public awareness, preparedness and response training for citizens and volunteers which include prevention techniques, public outreach and protocols for each county/community.

