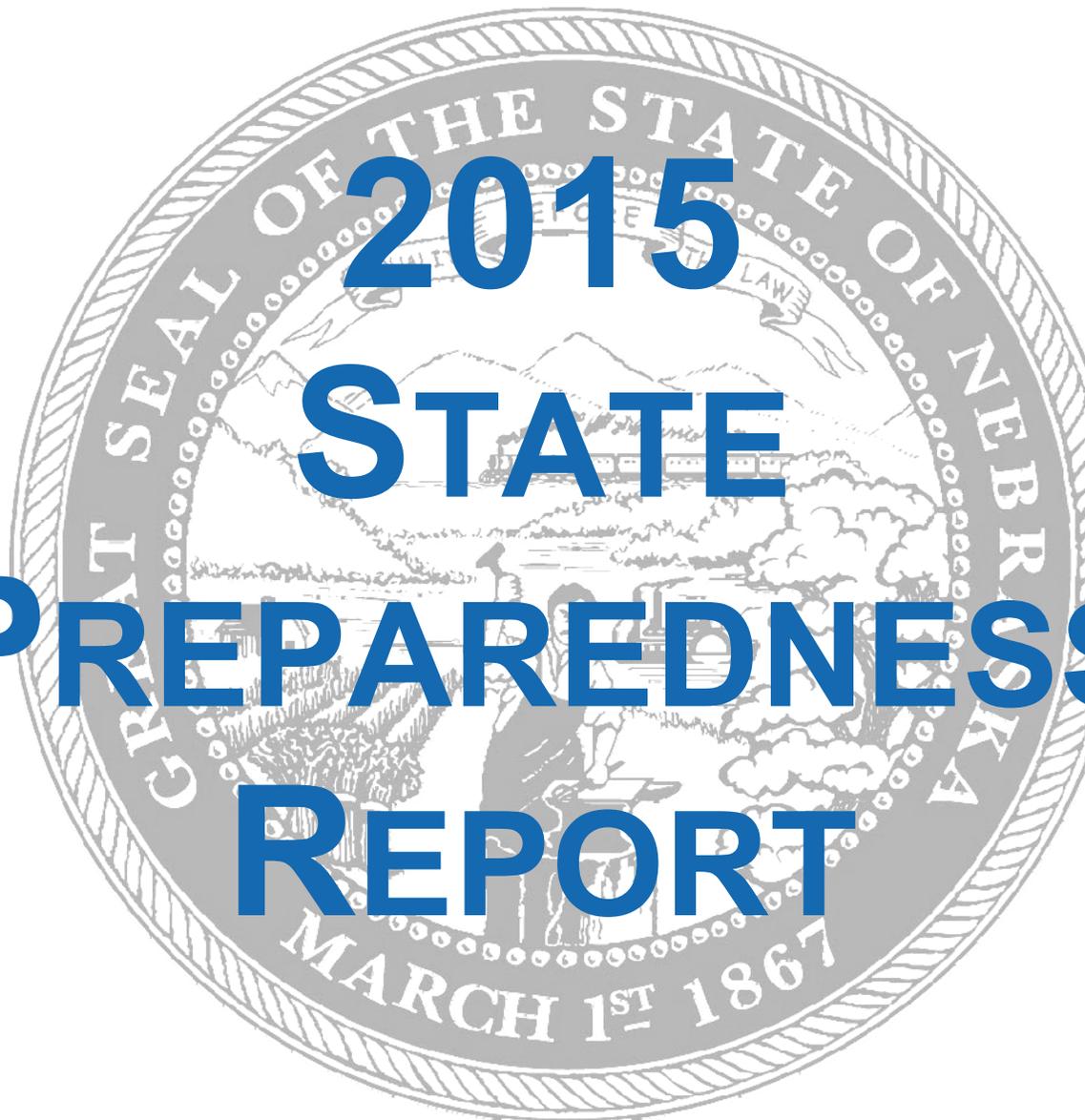


# Nebraska Emergency Management/ Homeland Security Program



# 2015 STATE PREPAREDNESS REPORT



The State of Nebraska's annual report on the priorities, goals and objectives supporting the National Preparedness Goal and associated activities funded through the Department of Homeland Security and the Homeland Security Grant Program

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**State of Nebraska**  
**Office of Homeland Security**  
**2015 Status of the Nebraska Emergency Management/Homeland Security Program**

1 March 2016

Governor Pete Ricketts  
Homeland Security Policy Group  
Legislative Appropriations Committee  
Executive Board of the Legislative Council

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Pursuant to Nebraska RRS 81-830, Office of Homeland Security, created, this is the yearly report for FY2015 program activities within the state in support of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). This report contains the identified state priorities, goals, and objectives in support of the National Preparedness Goal and the associated activities funded through the DHS Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) for FY2015.

Nebraska faces similar threats from terrorism and natural disasters as any other state. Although Nebraska's central location may mitigate potential threats from international terrorism, its small, dispersed population, large agricultural and food processing industry, electrical grid, and telecommunications capabilities are potential targets that must be addressed within the context of the total state program. The challenge for Nebraska is to programmatically build an emergency management/homeland security program that effectively leverages our statewide resources and capabilities. This is an exceedingly complex task that requires regional coordination, cooperation, and a focused effort from local, tribal, state, and federal partners, the state's citizens, and private and nonprofit sectors.

Three main areas of focus for the Nebraska Emergency Management/Homeland Security Program are reflected in the FY2015 HSGP investment justifications<sup>1</sup>:

1. **Planning Exercise and Training (PET) Program/National Incident Management System (NIMS):** This program focuses on enhancing capabilities through regional, comprehensive, and progressive planning, exercises, and training. Additionally, the state continues to maintain an emphasis on the Incident Command System (ICS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS), as per the governor's executive order #0502, from March 4, 2005.
2. **Interoperable Communications:** The state emergency management/homeland security program is developing an interoperable public safety network, recognizing the importance of interoperable, multi-jurisdictional, and multi-agency communications during emergencies.
3. **CBRNE Cities & Emergency Response:** Chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive (CBRNE) threats exist across the state. Ten hazardous materials teams, located across the state, provide hazardous materials response through a state memorandum of understanding (MOU) and local mutual aid agreements.

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<sup>1</sup> Investment justifications are submitted to DHS and must demonstrate how proposed projects address gaps and deficiencies in current programs and capabilities. Investment justifications are part of the evaluation criteria used by DHS when allocating grant funds.

In addition to these three main focus areas, the state also submitted investment justifications for programs in four additional areas: Agriculture Response and Recovery, Law Enforcement Improvised Explosive Device (IED) and the Intelligence and Fusion Center Process, Citizen Corps, and the Metropolitan Medical Response System.

The state and local jurisdictions remains focused on the priorities and programs identified in the State Homeland Security Strategy and continue to build a strong program that is relevant, prudent for Nebraska, supportive of, and can integrate with, the National Preparedness Goal.

Beginning in FY2012, DHS linked the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) under the umbrella of the HSGP. The Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) and Citizen Corps Program (CCP) are no longer funded as distinct grant programs. However, all activities and costs allowed under the FY2011 Citizen Corps Program (CCP) and FY2011 Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) grant program were allowable and encouraged under the FY2015 HSGP. Grant rules required that 25 percent of the total funds awarded under the SHSP be distributed in support of law enforcement terrorism prevention activities linked to one or more core capabilities within the National Preparedness Goal.

### **FY2015 Homeland Security Grant Program Overview (HSGP):<sup>2</sup>**

FY2015 funds were allocated based on three factors: 1) the legislatively mandated minimum amount, 2) DHS' risk methodology, and 3) anticipated effectiveness of the projects proposed, based on the strengths of the state's investment justifications. Based upon the submitted FY2015 investment justifications and the risk analysis for the state, Nebraska was, for the eighth year in a row, awarded the congressionally mandated base line allocation of **\$3,734,500** for the SHSP. The state had no federally designated UASI cities in FY2015, and therefore did not receive any UASI funds.

State Homeland Security Program (SHSP): The SHSP grant supports the implementation of state homeland security strategies to address identified planning, organization, equipment, training, and exercise needs to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism and other catastrophic events.

After the 2015 investment justifications were accepted by DHS, the funds Nebraska received were allocated to the local level, within 45 days, to pre-designated projects that resulted from a regional investment justifications process. A regionally designated administrative county received the funds and oversaw program integration and progress with the assistance of the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), the state administrative agency (SAA).

The Nebraska 2015 HSGP investment justifications were built upon the state having a comprehensive, leveraged program approach, involving state and local program capabilities that support each other with the flexibility to integrate into the National Planning Frameworks. The 2015 investment justifications submitted by Nebraska were the result of a collaborative effort involving the 10 CBRNE hazardous materials response teams, the wide spectrum of first responders from across the state, the MMRS programs, public health departments, volunteers/citizen corps, the state planning team, and the Governor's Homeland Security Policy Group.

There has been a focused effort, since 1999, to build upon the initial State Homeland Security Strategy. Since the start of the program, funding has been utilized to meet Nebraska's identified risk, threats, and

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<sup>2</sup> Fiscal Year 2015 Homeland Security Grant Program Notice of Funding Opportunity, pg. 2.

vulnerabilities, in order to strengthen capabilities, planning, training, and exercise programs across the broad spectrum of needs. Nebraska supports the National Preparedness Goal through the application of a systems-based approach, utilizing capabilities-based planning as a common, all-hazard, major-events planning process. This provides a mechanism for measuring preparedness and identifying future preparedness investments. All of the emergency response processes, programs, and capabilities already in place within our state, local, tribal, and private sector homeland security programs, across all disciplines, support the National Preparedness Goal.

Nebraska’s homeland security program provides a way to enhance these existing resources by networking them together more effectively. This report details how Nebraska continues to build on past successes and expand its capabilities in gap areas related to the regionalization of programs, equipment, resources, and the interoperability of communication projects supported by previous homeland security grants.

The homeland security program, and the allocation of grant dollars at both the state and local level in 2015, supported seven primary investment justifications. What follows is a brief overview of these investment justifications for 2015. Each investment section includes a brief history of the investment, an explanation of the current status of the investment, and a description of the future of the investment with any foreseeable challenges.

**Investment Justification #1: Nebraska State and Regional Planning, Exercising, and Training (PET)**

This investment includes sustainment and enhancement of a planning, exercise and training process that has been used for several years within the state. It sustains the current training and exercising philosophy that is built each year into the training, exercise, and planning workshop (TEPW) and integrated into the state and regional three-year exercise training calendars. It enhances the process by completing the Threat and Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (THIRA) process, integrating state/regional public health and MMRS programs into planning, developing risk assessment tools for the public and private sector, and integrating technical assistance provisions from the state into the state/local/regional/tribal planning process.



In 2015, Nebraska continued the core capabilities-based PET program within the eight PET regions. NEMA continues to assist the PET regions in the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) process within their exercise programs. This process includes strategic planning, exercise design, development, evaluation, and improvement planning. Using the three-year training and exercise calendar, we were able to align training and exercising across the regions. All training and exercises done in the regions using HSGP funds were HSEEP and NIMS compliant. This investment is intended to address capabilities at the state/local/regional/tribal level. The priority core capabilities identified at the annual training and exercise and planning workshop include operational communications, operational coordination, and planning. Additionally, this investment continues to support the state NIMS program, the state/local/regional/tribal integration into, and support for, the National Response Framework, as well as the continued development

of an all-hazards incident management team. Nebraska maintains a system of online credentialing of staff and equipment; this program continues to grow, giving local jurisdictions the ability to identify people with the appropriate training and qualifications for the needed response during disasters.

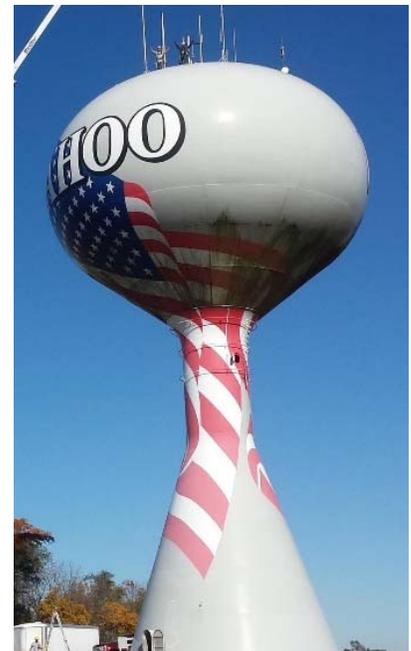
The state and PET regions continue efforts to meet the challenge of maintaining current levels of programming with reduced federal funding. This includes continuing to meet the exercise and training requirements for the Emergency Management Performance Grant and State Homeland Security Grants.

### **Investment Justification #2: Nebraska Interoperable Communications**

Through executive order, the Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council (NPSCC) was created in October 2012. The council is intended to focus on supporting interoperability through representation from the eight planning, exercise and training (PET) regions, the Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD), and several state agencies, including the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO), the Nebraska State Patrol (NSP), and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA). The NPSCC is charged with providing policy-level direction to planning and decisions regarding development, operations, and sustainability of interoperability among public safety first responders in the state. Leadership of the NPSCC is provided through the statewide interoperability coordinator (SWIC) and the lieutenant governor.

This year, the NPSCC will devote much of its attention to finding solutions for incompatibility among first responders, as well as state and local resources that can be utilized and shared. Many components are being factored into this decision including the Statewide Radio System (SRS) as well as the Nebraska Regional Interoperable Network (NRIN). Both of these systems are being used more commonly among law enforcement across many of the above mentioned regions.

The SRS system uses the VHF spectrum, and is based on the Motorola Astro P25 technology platform. The system provides common interoperability talk groups to local dispatch centers across the state, and has flexibility to accommodate communications between jurisdictions for different emergency scenarios. The NRIN project is a point-to-point microwave connection of public safety access points on a single, redundant network. When finished, NRIN will provide a fast, secure means for county officials to utilize as a transport service for data. Both the SRS system and the NRIN system continue to grow as more users understand the capabilities of both of these systems.



Priorities for Nebraska Interoperable Communications include:

1. Complete implementation of state interoperability talk groups at local dispatch locations.
2. Complete installation and implementation of the Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network.
3. Support outreach efforts to educate and train public safety agencies on interoperability talk groups and frequencies.
4. Training and exercising the state and local interoperable communication plans.
5. Utilize the capabilities of the national frequencies.
6. Coordinate statewide communications planning through the statewide interoperability coordinator (SWIC), NEMA and NSP.

**Investment Justification #3: Nebraska CBRNE Cities and Emergency Response Planning**

Nebraska continues to ensure that we have a qualified, trained and ready hazardous materials response team. Dating back to 1999, when NEMA established agreements with ten local fire departments, to current day where we have additional state and federal team assets, the goal of the CBRNE program has been to respond to, stabilize, and mitigate a hazardous materials incident.

2014 brought on significant changes to the hazmat community within the state. NEMA developed a hazmat team typing guide, with the assistance of the Hazmat Technical Advisory Committee, which categorizes the ten teams into type I, II, and III response levels.

Responses continue to rise and have included train derailments, small and large leaks in chemical plants, and multiple transportation accidents. The program continues to grow as demonstrated with the first Nebraska team attending the national hazmat challenge in New Mexico.

Long term goals include the continuation of updating plans, equipment always needs repaired and replaced, and the on-going training to maintain the standards.



**Nebraska Agriculture Response and Recovery**

Beginning in 2003, Nebraska used funding from the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) to increase the state’s ability to deal with threats to agriculture and the food supply. These funds continue to support two main focus areas: local planning and education and the Livestock Emergency Disease Response System (LEDRS).



The LEDRS system was developed in 2002, so private sector veterinarians across Nebraska could be activated, as needed, during times of a livestock emergency, and continues to provide planning and exercise opportunities to private veterinarians and other LEDRS members each year. In 2015, SHSP partially funded our LEDRS Conference which was held in Grand Island, August 18-19. The conference presented information on timely

topics such as the High Path Avian Influenza (HPAI) outbreak of 2015, Ebola, Pilger Tornado vs. Feedlot, Drones for Emergency Response Activities and Vesicular Stomatitis. A panel of employees that responded to the HPAI outbreak were there to talk about lessons learned from the field and answer questions from the attendees. We continue to strive to get our LEDRS participants credentialed according to policy for emergency response activities. This year we have approximately 20 people who have taken all the training

to qualify as either a LEDRS veterinarian or licensed animal health technician. The Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) coordinated with Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to monitor attendance at the conference with the use of the rapid-tag software program.

This year was a momentous year for NDA as we responded to the largest animal disease outbreak in the history of the United States. On May 11<sup>th</sup> Nebraska confronted one of its worst fears. HPAI was confirmed in northeast Nebraska. Four facilities owned by the same company and one backyard flock had tested positive for HPAI. The sixth facility was known to be a dangerous contact and was voluntarily depopulated. Over the course of the next 210 days, NDA, with the help of multiple agencies, would be fighting a battle against HPAI. Nebraska would have to depopulate and dispose of nearly five million chickens. Due to prior meetings with NEMA, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), NDA was able to make some quick decisions when the first positive case was reported and stopped the spread of the disease. As of December 6<sup>th</sup>, all quarantines have been lifted and five of the six facilities are in the process of restocking.

One of NDA's biggest challenges is being prepared for the next emergency. It became apparent during the outbreak of 2015 that our staff needed more ICS training. Since then, we have revised NDA's ICS policy and we continue to get more people qualified to fulfill general staff positions. Over the course of the next year, all our employees will also be required to take at least the basic ICS courses (100, 200, 700, and 701). Employees that are needed to fill a command or general staff position will be required to take ICS 300, 400, and 800. It is our goal to have most ICS positions relevant to an animal disease response staffed 3 deep within our department.

#### **Investment Justification #5: Law Enforcement Improvised Explosive Device (IED) and the Intelligence and Fusion Center Process**

This investment justification is a combined focus on the Law Enforcement Improvised Explosive Device (IED) Response and Planning and Intelligence and Fusion Center processes. The efforts of the fusion center and IED response are intended to further the state's ability to detect, prevent, respond to, and recover from a terrorist event, or natural disaster. The investment justification builds on the national priorities of strengthening information sharing and collaboration capabilities within the state, at the regional level, and with federal partners. The fusion center process is carried out through the Nebraska Information Analysis Center (NIAC). The NIAC integrates data from many state and local data sources including the Nebraska State Patrol (NSP), Lincoln Police Department, Omaha Police Department, North Platte Police Department, Lancaster County Sheriff's Office, Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, Gothenburg Police Department, and the University of Nebraska Police Department, with the NSP providing day-to-day leadership. IED response and planning is used to ensure all accredited bomb squads in Nebraska have adequate capabilities and equipment for response to explosive-related incidents across Nebraska. There are four accredited bomb squads in



Nebraska that employ hazardous device technicians (HDTs). The agencies maintaining bomb squads are the NSP, OPD, Lincoln Bureau of Fire Prevention, and the Scottsbluff Police Department. While not receiving federal homeland security funds, the Nebraska National Guard's 155<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing has an explosive ordinance response team comprised of full-time and part-time personnel, many of whom have combat IED experience. While their primary mission deals with ordinance, they could be used for IED response.

In 2015, for the first time, the NIAC included non-sworn individuals, into its fusion liaison officer (FLO) program, with representatives from the emergency management, fire and public utility communities. Currently, there are 90 trained FLOs across the state. The NIAC has different product lines which it shares with its law enforcement and public/private sector partners to promote situational awareness. In 2015, the NIAC produced 220 law enforcement daily threat briefs and 50 NIAC law enforcement bulletins. The NIAC also began work with the Grand Island Police Department to build a gang intelligence database. Nebraska's bomb squads continue to train and enhance capabilities with specialized equipment obtained through the grant process. HDTs attended and successfully completed courses put on by both the FBI and ATF and participated in the 2015 Raven's Challenge sponsored by the ATF in Winter Park, Colorado.

Funding is a major concern for the NIAC moving forward, not only because of staff size but also because of the need for maintenance and sustainment funding of networks and equipment. Having created a true information sharing environment, the NIAC now faces the challenge of handling "Big Data." The ability to initiate a single query in a data set that holds over 16.8 million records can sometimes result in a return too large to process. The NIAC must now use the experience of intelligence analysts and all of the associated intelligence entities to develop creative ways to sift through and use the data in more constructive ways. Nebraska bomb squads continue to face the challenge of acquiring grant funding for equipment and training. All the bomb squads are part-time squads with the HDTs having other primary duties within their respective agencies. This creates challenges in maintaining monthly training hours in accordance with national standards/guidelines. This part-time status also challenges the bomb squads in equipment maintenance and proficiencies. Law enforcement in general, but specifically the bomb squads are challenged in the enforcement of explosive/IED-related statutes. Nebraska currently has outdated and contradicting statutes with regard to explosives and/or IEDs, making effective prosecution and public safety a challenge. The associated bomb squads will address new challenges as appropriate to aid in facilitating appropriate explosive-related responses and public safety.

#### **Investment Justification #6: Nebraska Citizen Corps Program**

The Nebraska Citizen Corps Program seeks to actively engage the public in disaster preparedness and response through education, training, and volunteer opportunities. Citizen Corps programs were involved in a number of activities throughout Nebraska in 2015. These activities included participating in local preparedness events, training alongside other volunteer responders, and assisting with public health initiatives. Local Citizen Corps programs reported nearly 4,000 hours of volunteer time in 2015. Some notable events over the last year include providing firefighter rehab in Cheyenne County, the development of a teen community emergency response team (CERT) in Hall County, providing shelter assistance in Lincoln County, and the creation of two new community organizations active in disaster (COADs) in Scotts Bluff and Hall counties.

In 2015, the Nebraska Citizen Corps began to take a more active role in the homeland security grant investment justification process. The Nebraska Citizen Corps Council reviewed project proposals from local programs and made recommendations to the Lt. Governor’s Homeland Security Policy Group. Approved projects were determined to fit within the state’s priorities for homeland security. The Citizen Corps Council will participate similarly in the investment justification process again this year.



The Nebraska Citizen Corps continues to engage with local agencies and organizations to reach as many people as possible and to take an active role in preparedness and response activities throughout the state. Nebraska Citizen Corps will work closely with the Lt. Governor’s Homeland Security Policy Group in order to better understand and meet the preparedness needs of Nebraskans. Additionally, Nebraska Citizen Corps hopes to create a statewide deployable (CERT) which would be available to assist with emergencies and disasters across the state. Finally, the Nebraska Citizen Corps will continue to promote personal preparedness through various local, state, regional, and federal activities.

**Investment Justification #7: Nebraska Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS)**

The MMRS program is specifically targeted to the metropolitan Omaha area. Specific funds were identified for Omaha to address the medical response to an all-hazards environment and link the MMRS system to the state’s homeland security program.

In 2015, OMMRS worked with the Ambulatory Surgery Centers on a project with the Nebraska Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) for the development of a plan for specimen collection in a major event. The other major focus has been to work on the development of a centralized morgue plan due to the limited hospital morgue space.



OMMRS also participated in a number of exercises and trainings, developing plans and working with both internal and external community stakeholders. These exercises included tabletop exercises of the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) as well as full scale exercises at Eppley Airfield and an Offutt Air Force Base active shooter exercise.

funding now comes through the SHSG program, and as such, changes in spending priorities and decreases in staffing create a reality to which the program must adapt.

Funding, sustainment of current resources, and ensuring that programs have trained personnel is always a challenge. MMRS

**Conclusion**

The Office of the Lt. Governor, and the Homeland Security Policy Group, continue to lead the overall homeland security effort for the state of Nebraska. Due to the composition and complexity of the DHS grants, many of the grant activities for FY2015 are just beginning to be implemented. However, some of the current funding is already being used to enhance and sustain existing programs. The Nebraska Emergency Management/Homeland Security Program is integrated into the Nebraska Homeland Security Strategy, and focused on long-term accomplishments and capabilities.

Planning for, responding to, recovering from, and mitigating natural and manmade disaster is not a one-time event. It is not just a box to be “checked off”; it is an ongoing process designed to reduce the vulnerabilities of the people and communities of Nebraska from the damage, injury, and loss of life and property associated with disasters and emergencies.

The state’s homeland security program has matured a great deal since the events of September 11, 2001. This can be seen in the continued development of the Nebraska Information and Analysis Center under a collaborative environment between the NSP and police departments across the state, the build-out of state and local communication systems, and the enhanced hazardous material response systems across the state. There has also been a tremendous increase in the training and inter-agency cooperation, at both the state and local level, as evidenced by the creation of the Nebraska Resource Accountability Team (NRAT), a team of county emergency managers that come together and deploy to a disaster scene and assist with the tracking of volunteers and resources, and NEMA’s progress toward the creation of a type-III incident management team that can deploy to assist local officials manage larger disasters. When the Nebraska program was established, decisions were made to support the program through existing state agencies and consolidate the executive requirements for homeland security under the Office of the Lt. Governor. Although we anticipate increased scrutiny at the federal level, in terms of funding support, we believe the state of Nebraska made good decisions that resulted in increased security and readiness for the entire state.

Currently, funds received by the state support 100% of the state’s administrative homeland security program and 50% of the costs to programmatically carry out the state’s homeland security and emergency management program. These funds also support up to 50% of the local emergency management programs across the state. It is almost certain that in future budget cycles, the state will be asked to determine the level of support we should continue to give toward the state’s homeland security program, based upon the changing environment for funding support from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Such reductions in funding would eventually lead to extended timelines for the completion of on-going communication projects and reductions in homeland security programs within NEMA, negatively affecting the state’s ability to enact and carry out the state emergency management and homeland security program.



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Daryl Bohac  
Major General  
NEMA Director



Bryan Tuma  
NEMA Assistant Director  
DHS State Administrative Agent

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**Attachments:**

Acronyms and Terms

Nebraska PET Regions/MOU Hazardous Materials Response Teams Regional Map

2014 State Homeland Security Grant Program Totals

Executive Order 12-01

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## Acronyms and Terms

**CBRNE:** Chemical, Biological, Radioactive, Nuclear and Explosive

**CCP:** Citizen Corps Program

**DHS:** United States Department of Homeland Security

**FEMA:** Federal Emergency Management Agency

**Fusion Center:** an intelligence-gathering and analysis center used to promote sharing of information among local, state and federal agencies as well as non-governmental business partners

**Haz Mat:** Hazardous Materials

**HDT:** Hazardous Device Technician

**Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP):** a capabilities and performance-based exercise program that provides a standardized methodology and terminology for exercise design, development, conduct, evaluation, and improvement planning<sup>1</sup>

**Homeland Security Policy Group:** led by the lieutenant governor, this group assesses strategic alternatives and recommends broad courses of action for the development of comprehensive homeland security strategies

**HSGP:** Homeland Security Grant Program

**IED:** Improvised Explosive Device

**Incident Command System (ICS):** consists of a standard hierarchical organization and procedures used to manage incidents

**Investment Justification:** method by which the state explains its planned use for Homeland Security grant funds

**MMRS:** Metropolitan Medical Response System

**MOU:** Memorandum of Understanding

**National Incident Management System (NIMS):** a framework used in the United States for both governmental and non-governmental agencies to respond to natural or manmade disasters at the local, state, and federal levels of government

**National Planning Scenarios:** Fifteen all-hazards planning scenarios for use in preparedness activities. They represent the range of natural and manmade disasters

**National Preparedness Goal:** The President directed the development of a National Preparedness Goal (or Goal) in Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD)-8. The Goal reorients how the Federal government proposes to strengthen the preparedness of the United States to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies. The Goal establishes a vision, capabilities, and priorities for national preparedness.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> HSEEP Website, <https://hseep.dhs.gov/>

<sup>2</sup> National Preparedness Goal, iii

**National Priorities:** 8 national priorities that are to be used to help guide preparedness goals and reflect major themes and issues identified through national strategies <sup>3</sup>

**NEMA:** Nebraska Emergency Management Agency

**PET:** Planning, Exercise and Training

**SHSP:** State Homeland Security Program

**State Homeland Security Strategy:** identifies a strategic direction for enhancing the State of Nebraska's capability and capacity to detect, prevent against, protect against, respond to, and recover from threats or incidents of terrorism, disasters, and major emergencies.<sup>4</sup>

**Target Capabilities List:** 37 specific capabilities that communities, the private sector, and all levels of government should collectively possess in order to respond effectively to disasters.<sup>5</sup>

**UASI:** Urban Area Security Initiative

**Universal Task List (UTL):** 1,600 unique tasks that can facilitate efforts to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from the major events that are represented by the National Planning Scenarios. It presents a common vocabulary and identifies key tasks that support development of essential capabilities among organizations at all levels.<sup>6</sup>

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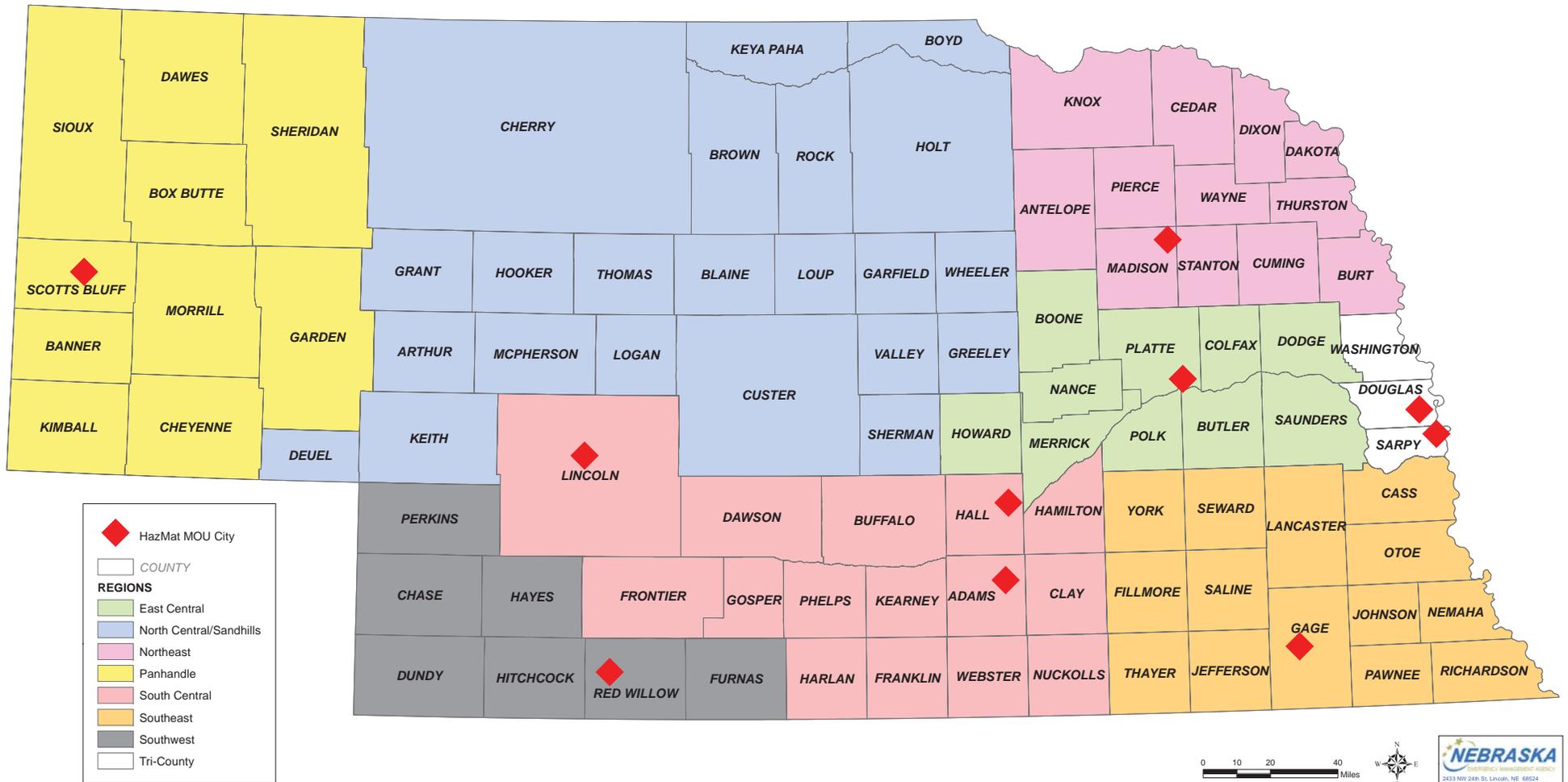
<sup>3</sup> National Preparedness Guidelines, 1

<sup>4</sup> 2009 Nebraska Homeland Security Strategy and Goals, 1

<sup>5</sup> National Preparedness Guidelines, iii

<sup>6</sup> Ibid

# (SHSP) State Homeland Security Grant Program Planning, Exercise & Training Regions



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# 2015 State Homeland Security Grant Program

Region	Hazmat MOU Team(s)	IED/Fusion	Comm/PET	Total
Southeast	\$ 20,000	\$ 240,519	\$ 153,600	\$ 414,119
South Central	\$ 60,000		\$ 175,000	\$ 235,000
East Central	\$ 20,000	\$ 41,338	\$ 128,300	\$ 189,638
Northeast	\$ 20,000	\$ 82,175	\$ 170,300	\$ 272,475
Panhandle	\$ 20,000	\$ 57,103	\$ 102,468	\$ 179,571
North Central		\$ 82,798	\$ 120,000	\$ 202,798
Southwest	\$ 20,000	\$ 98,674	\$ 3,000	\$ 121,674
Tri-County	\$ 40,000	\$ 207,250	\$ 242,500	\$ 489,750
NHIT	\$ 20,000			\$ 20,000
NRIN*			\$ 550,286	\$ 550,286
MMRS**			\$ 161,289	\$ 161,289
CCP**			\$ 151,000	\$ 151,000
Total award to local units of government				\$ 2,987,600

(\*Funds transferred via MOU to the NRIN project from the East Central Region)  
(\*\*Funds transferred via MOU to the CCP and MMRS projects via the Southeast Region)

Remaining 20% kept at the state level per grant guidance **\$ 746,900**  
NEMA: \$560,175 (funds allocated to the PET program and Maintenance and Administration)  
NSP: \$186,725 (funds allocated to the Nebraska Fusion Information Network (NFIN))

**Total Award Amount** **\$ 3,734,500**

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EXECUTIVE ORDER  
No. 12-01  
ENHANCING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS –  
Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council

WHEREAS, Nebraska recognized the importance of public safety and protection of public and private property throughout the state: and

WHEREAS, efficient emergency response is paramount to the safety of Nebraska's citizens and visitors, and for the protection of public and private property throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, emergency responders commonly rely upon radio frequencies and technologies that are often not planned or configured to be interoperable with other systems; and

WHEREAS, interoperable public safety communications between and within jurisdictions is critical to the mission of public safety; and

WHEREAS, the attainment of interoperable communications requires statewide coordination and leadership,

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Nebraska, I hereby establish the "Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council (hereinafter "NPSCC"). The NPSCC will function as a Council to operate under the guidance and direction of the State Homeland Security Director / State Wireless Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) with the following purposes and charges:

1. Provide for the policy level direction related to the planning and decisions regarding development, operation and sustainability of inoperability in the State of Nebraska;
2. Provide leadership regarding the development of public safety communications within Nebraska;
3. Adopt bylaws for the operation of the Council;
4. Promote interoperability for public safety communications within Nebraska, and with border states;
5. Provide recommendations for the development of protocols, standard operating procedures and guidelines for use of public safety communications systems in Nebraska;
6. Coordinate and provide planning, training and exercise opportunities related to communications interoperability for all necessary and authorized public safety practitioners;
7. Establish working groups, as required, to meet the needs of providing interoperability within Nebraska. NPSCC will provide guidance on recommendations that come from these working groups; and
8. Develop recommendations and strategies for best utilization of public funds, including grants, to improve public safety communications in Nebraska.

The NPSCC shall be comprised of a representative who has been vested by the appointing authority to represent the following agencies or organizations:

- a. A Nebraska State Patrol representative, who shall be appointed by the Superintendent of the Nebraska State Patrol;
- b. A Nebraska Game and Parks Commission representative, who shall be appointed by the Commission's Executive Director;
- c. A Nebraska Fire Marshal representative, who shall be appointed by the State Fire Marshal;
- d. A Nebraska Office of the Chief Information Officer representative, who shall be appointed by the Chief Information Officer;
- e. A Nebraska Emergency Management Agency representative, who shall be appointed by the Adjutant General;
- f. A Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) representative, who shall be appointed by the NPPD Chief Executive Officer;
- g. One Representative of each Nebraska PETCom Regions, who shall be appointed by their respective region;
- h. A Nebraska League of Municipalities Representative; and
- i. A Nebraska Association of County Officials Representative.

No members serving in any capacity on the NPSCC shall be entitled to any compensation or reimbursement for expenses incurred due to their membership on the NPSCC.

The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency will provide administrative support to the NPSCC. The NPSCC shall prepare an annual report for the Governor and the Nebraska Information Technology Commission. Such report shall contain a current assessment of the status of interoperability of public safety in Nebraska, as well as recommendations regarding improvements and enhancements to Nebraska Public Safety Communications.

I hereby order and direct that Executive Orders #08-03 and #08-04 be rescinded, effective as of 12:01 a.m. on October 18, 2012. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this 18<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2012.



*Dave Heineman*

Dave Heineman, Governor  
State of Nebraska

Attest:

*John A. Gale*

John A. Gale, Secretary of State  
State of Nebraska