State Homeland Security Program

BACKGROUND

The State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) grant application consists of investment justifications (initiatives or projects) that are prioritized based on state, regional, and local public safety stakeholder input. Each year, FEMA releases the grant guidance after the federal budget process is completed (usually in the spring). Virginia issues guidance to stakeholders across the Commonwealth through email announcements, correspondence, and seven regional stakeholder meetings where the grant availability and target capability areas are addressed and discussed. These meetings provide an opportunity for local input through a project proposal submission on all facets of the grant priorities. Project proposals are due at the end of the 60-day period to ensure ample time to develop their requests.

Since 2009, there has been a consistent effort to establish, refine and build upon a risk-based formula to allocate funds from homeland security programs. Each year, the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM), under the leadership of the governor's office, allocates an average of $7 million to enhance homeland security and emergency management across the Commonwealth. It is the goal of the governor's office to promote transparency and public safety stakeholder involvement in the decision-making process for the allocation of these critical grant funds. To achieve an objective and transparent decision rationale and to give decision makers confidence that public funds are being well spent; VDEM uses a portfolio decision analysis methodology for grant allocation.

 "Federal grants for emergency management and homeland security to Virginia have been cut approximately 70 percent since 2008, requiring us to be more strategic in how money is allocated in order to sustain the basic response capability that has been built up since 9/11," said Dr. Jeff Stern, Virginia's state coordinator for emergency management. "We asked our public safety partners from around the state to determine the priorities for this year's grant process, and nearly 200 local leaders from emergency management, law enforcement, fire and rescue, and EMS participated in the workshop and project evaluation process."

2019 GRANT CYCLE

In April 2019, VDEM hosted a Public Safety Stakeholder Workshop. The purpose of the workshop was to promote the improvement of the SHSP grant allocation process. Outcomes of the workshop included recommendations on grant policies, and stakeholder driven refinement of project proposal scoring criteria. Adopted grant policies include 1) a minimum $10,000 request, 2) a 10% cap on all funded CERT projects, 3) elimination of the lowest scoring 40% of projects, 4)

State agencies are eligible to partner with local entities but are not eligible to apply on their own, and 5) applicants must include all project components in a single proposal.

Seven non-regional criteria were selected to be evaluated by peer reviewers not within the project region: scope, capability linkage, sustainment, whole of community, project management, performance measurement plan, and project replication. Four regional criteria were selected to be evaluated by subject matter experts: risk, benefit, vetted regionalism, and resource sharing. It was also decided that cyber security and interoperability projects be scored on regional criteria by their respective SMEs. This voluntary process was open to all professional groups, state agencies and local government officials from different disciplines.

2019 RESULTS

Old Dominion University's Virginia Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center (VMASC) provided the analysis for the proposals calculating the total benefit score and benefit-cost ratio. In 2019, 126 projects totaling nearly $13.2 were submitted. Three projects were ineligible, and 2 projects were reprogrammed. The remaining 121 projects costing $12.6M were evaluated by more than 100 peer reviewers and subject matter experts. Of the 121 projects evaluated, 72 scored above the 40% threshold established by stakeholders. The project's overall benefit score and cost ratio were used to generate a ranking of all projects. Fifty-four projects valued at $2.5M were selected for funding (Table 1). Two lower ranking projects were selected for funding to meet a grant law enforcement contribution requirement. Six higher ranking projects were eliminated to achieve the law enforcement requirement. One CERT project was eliminated due to the funding cap.

TABLE 1 RESULTS OF THE ANALYSIS SORTED BY BENEFIT COST RATIO.
PROJECTS NOT SELECTED FOR FUNDING INDICATED IN RED

Agency	Projects (Assessed by B/C Ratio)	Award
Hopewell Emergency Management	VA19-SHSP-0064 Regional UAS Training Academy	$10,000
City of Colonial Heights	VA19-SHSP-0057 Colonial Heights Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Support	$12,250
Emergency Management Alliance of Central Virginia CERT Committee	VA19-SHSP-0123 Regional Community Emergency Response Team Training	$15,000
Richmond Fire and Emergency Services	VA19-SHSP-0052 City of Richmond CERT Program	$12,350
Prince George Fire EMS EM	VA19-SHSP-0077 Prince George CERT (Community Emergency Support Team) and Community Preparedness programs.	$12,250
City of Chesapeake Fire Department	VA19-SHSP-0065 All Hazards Citizen Preparedness and Engagement	$13,500

Agency	Projects (Assessed by B/C Ratio)	Award
Orange County Department of Fire and EMS	VA19-SHSP-0047 Ballistic Vests and Helmets for Fire and EMS	$13,000
James City County Emergency Management	VA19-SHSP-0014 Regional Shelter Planning, Training, and Exercise James City County and Williamsburg	$13,500
Emergency Management Alliance of Central Virginia Training and Exercise Committee	VA19-SHSP-0140 Central Virginia Training and Exercise Enhancement	$20,000
Stafford County Fire and Rescue Department	VA19-SHSP-0016 Stafford County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Sustainment	$13,000
Page County Sheriffs Office	VA19-SHSP-0097 Regional CERT-Page County and Warren County	$18,550
Craig County	VA19-SHSP-0107 CERT Grant - Citizen Emergency Response Team	$15,550
Commonwealth Regional Council	VA19-SHSP-0138 CRC Regional Joint Information System Joint Information Center Plan for Crisis Communications	$22,680
Commonwealth Regional Council	VA19-SHSP-0137 CRC Regional Family Assistance Center Plan	$21,600
Wise County Sheriffs Office	VA19-SHSP-0031 Implementation of a Rescue Task Force to provide medical assistance in cases of active shooter event	$24,500
Henrico County Division of Fire Office of Emergency Management	VA19-SHSP-0056 Whole Community Preparedness Outreach and Response Training	$21,000
Emergency Management Alliance of Central Virginia Training and Exercise Committee	VA19-SHSP-0139 2019 SHSP City of Richmond Command Post Enhancement Project	$19,000
Emergency Management Alliance of Central Virginia Planning Committee	VA19-SHSP-0071 Regional Recovery Workshop and Inventory Project	$25,000
Hopewell Emergency Management	VA19-SHSP-0063 Regional Foam Trailer Enhancement	$30,000
Fredericksburg Fire Department	VA19-SHSP-0086 TIER II reporting software with first responder database.	$20,000
Accomack County Department of Public Safety	VA19-SHSP-0072 Whole Community Outreach and Preparedness	$22,407
City of Lynchburg Police Department	VA19-SHSP-0051 Long Range Acoustic Devices (LRAD)	$24,517
Patrick County Sheriff Office	VA19-SHSP-0133 Patrick County Physical Security Enhancement	$28,460
City of Hopewell Emergency Management	VA19-SHSP-0062 Regional Tactical Response Capability Enhancement	$37,000

Agency	Projects (Assessed by B/C Ratio)	Award
City of Fairfax Fire Department	VA19-SHSP-0059 Flammable Liquid Firefighting Training for Foam Team	$26,800
Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department	VA19-SHSP-0018 CERTCON 2020 - 10th Annual National Capital Regional Community Emergency Response Conference	$25,000
James City County Emergency Management	VA19-SHSP-0013 Regional Citizen Corps Project James City County and the City of Williamsburg	$25,100
Wise County Sheriffs Office	VA19-SHSP-0028 Equipment purchases to help sustain the Wise County Sheriff's Office Tactical team.	$40,211
Bristol Virginia Fire Department	VA19-SHSP-0129 Modifications for Mobile Generator Compatibility	$30,000
City of Hampton Office of Emergency Management	VA19-SHSP-0024 Regional Citizen Corps Project Hampton and Poquoson	$42,000
Salem Fire and EMS	VA19-SHSP-0128 2019 Grant for Salem Special Operations Flammable Liquids Firefighting	$45,850
Emergency Management Alliance of Central Virginia Mass Care and Human Services Committee	VA19-SHSP-0131 Central Virginia Mass Care Enhancement Training & Exercise	$60,000
Roanoke Police Department	VA19-SHSP-0105 Increasing Officer Safety Wellness and Reducing Capability Gaps During Night Operations	$45,750
Page County Sheriffs Office	VA19-SHSP-0096 Page County Digital Microwave Network	$50,000
Chesterfield Fire and EMS	VA19-SHSP-0058 2019 Central Virginia Regional Flammable Liquids Training Grant	$65,000
Chesterfield Fire and EMS	VA19-SHSP-0092 Small Unmanned Aircraft System (sUAS) equipment for Chesterfield Fire and EMS	$60,000
Emergency Management Alliance of Central Virginia	VA19-SHSP-0122 Central Virginia Regional Emergency Management Planning Support	$74,275
Russell County Emergency Management	VA19-SHSP-0109 Russell County Emergency Management Emergency Operations Center	$49,741
Emergency Management Alliance of Central Virginia Public Outreach Committee	VA19-SHSP-0124 Central Virginia Whole Community Preparedness Outreach and Education	$80,000
Arlington County Emergency Management	VA19-SHSP-0050 Family Assistance Operations Orientation Training	$86,310
City of Virginia Beach Office of Emergency Management	VA19-SHSP-0084 Hampton Roads Southside Regional Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA)	$58,000
City of Hampton Office of Emergency Management	VA19-SHSP-0026 Regional Shelter Trailers for Hampton and Poquoson	$57,500
Hampton Roads MMRS	VA19-SHSP-0100 MCI and MASS CARE capability sustainment	$75,000
Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department	VA19-SHSP-0130 Hazardous Material Response Team technical training and purchase of fluorine free foam.	$70,000

Agency	Projects (Assessed by B/C Ratio)	Award
Chesapeake Fire Department	VA19-SHSP-0040 Flammable Liquid Firefighting Training for Foam Team	$73,698
Hampton Roads MMRS	VA19-SHSP-0101 CBRNE Pharmaceutical Stockpile – Nerve Agent Antidote and Antibiotics	$72,000
Wise County	VA19-SHSP-0032 Southwest Regional Mass Notification System	$98,434
Wise County	VA19-SHSP-0027 Wise County Mass Care Equipment	$65,000
Poquoson Fire Rescue	VA19-SHSP-0017 Special Operations Command Tow Vehicle	$71,000
Bedford County Sheriffs Office	VA19-SHSP-0006 Increasing Officer Safety Wellness and reducing Capability Gaps During Night Operations	$79,500
Augusta County ECC	VA19-SHSP-0076 Cache of P25 multi band land mobile radio subscribers for interoperability with surrounding agencies	$65,000
Hampton Police Division	VA19-SHSP-0126 Spectroscopic Personal Radiation Detector Acquisition	$83,000
Wise County Sheriffs Office	VA19-SHSP-0022 Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosive, and Ballistic Regional Response Vehicle **(Selected to meet LE requirement)**	$148,000
Henry County Sheriffs Office	VA19-SHSP-0011 Mobile Elevated Surveillance Platform **(Selected to meet LE requirement)**	$196,106
Newport News Division of Emergency Management	VA19-SHSP-0083 Regional CERT & Community Based Training **(Exceeded CERT Cap)**	$40,000
Buckingham County Emergency Services	VA19-SHSP-0067 Buckingham County Emergency Services Tactical Radio Interoperability Gateway Grant Proposal **(Eliminated to meet LE requirement)**	$62,617
Richmond Fire and Emergency Services	VA19-SHSP-0053 2019 SHSP City of Richmond Emergency Preparedness Media Campaign **(Eliminated to meet LE requirement)**	$65,000
Fredericksburg Fire Department	VA19-SHSP-0087 Remote Controlled Robot for SWAT EOD Search & Rescue Hazardous Materials **(Eliminated to meet LE requirement)**	$90,515
Franklin County Public Safety	VA19-SHSP-0019 Special Operations Teams Sustainability for Regional and National Deployments **(Eliminated to meet LE requirement)**	$100,000
Fairfax County OEM	VA19-SHSP-0135 All Hazard ICS Training Program – IMT training for the region from all levels of government **(Eliminated to meet LE requirement)**	$115,000
Frederick County Fire Rescue Department	VA19-SHSP-0121 Frederick County Fire and Rescue Department Rescue Task Force Equipment Project **(Eliminated to meet LE requirement)**	$103,429
RUSSELL COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE	VA19-SHSP-0136 Phase One Enhanced Countywide and Regional Interoperable Digital Communications System	$177,498
Farmville Police Department	VA19-SHSP-0049 Radio upgrade to P-25 compliant and replacement of inoperable radios.	$147,133

Agency	Projects (Assessed by B/C Ratio)	Award
City of Roanoke	VA19-SHSP-0020 Roanoke Regional Incident Command Unit	$213,750
CHESTERFIELD COUNTY VIRGINIA POLICE DEPARTMENT	VA19-SHSP-0132 EFFECTIVELY OUTFITTING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS RESPONDING TO HIGH-RISK SITUATIONS	$248,306
Police Department	VA19-SHSP-0082 Acquisition and Deployment of an Armored Personnel Carrier Emergency Rescue Vehicle	$274,837
Hampton Division of Fire Rescue	VA19-SHSP-0106 Hampton Community Emergency Action and Response Program	$209,500
Farmville Emergency Communications	VA19-SHSP-0046 PSAP Radio Console Upgrade to a P25 capable system	$312,019
Pulaski County	VA19-SHSP-0116 New River Valley Tactical Response Armored Rescue Vehicle	$259,734
Arlington County Fire Department	VA19-SHSP-0117 Bomb Squad Upgrades Sustainment for Operational Readiness	$271,000
Arlington County Police Department	VA19-SHSP-0125 Innovative Advances in Homeland Security for Public Safety	$460,000
Danville Fire Department	VA19-SHSP-0085 Danville Area Command Post	$650,000

Projects that did not score high enough to be considered for benefit cost analysis are listed below in order of highest to lowest benefit score (Table 2). This accounts for 49 of 121 projects eligible for review. The minimum benefit score needed to be greater than 48.03.

TABLE 2 PROJECTS NOT CONSIDERED FOR BENEFIT COST ANALYSIS DUE TO LOW BENEFIT SCORE

Agency	Project (Eliminated – Low Score)	Cost
Wise County Emergency Management	VA19-SHSP-0012 SW Region Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Equipment	$55,687
Westmoreland County Sheriffs Office	VA19-SHSP-0004 Community Emergency Notification System	$13,650
Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission	VA19-SHSP-0113 Regional Emergency Planner at the MPPDC	$49,500
Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission	VA19-SHSP-0115 Regional Continuity of Operations (COOP) Annex	$30,000
Frederick County Emergency Management	VA19-SHSP-0069 Heavy Duty 4x4 Emergency Response EM Vehicle equipped with communications equipment	$51,599
Henrico Fire	VA19-SHSP-0099 Emergency Response Vessel Replacement	$21,671

Agency	Project (Eliminated – Low Score)	Cost
Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission	VA19-SHSP-0112 MSAT Satellite Telephones for Regional Deployment	$17,000
City of Winchester Emergency Management	VA19-SHSP-0033 City of Winchester EOC Furniture and Technology	$58,700
Rockbridge Regional Public Safety Communications Center	VA19-SHSP-0015 Rockbridge County Interop Radios	$106,830
Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission	VA19-SHSP-0114 Revise the Middle Peninsula Resource Typing and Inventorying list Create a Regional Resource Guide	$36,055
Prince William County	VA19-SHSP-0061 Prince William County Interoperable Communications Vehicle	$109,877
Gloucester County Emergency Management	VA19-SHSP-0120 Regional Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Development and Support	$26,018
Gloucester County Emergency Management	VA19-SHSP-0119 Regional Medically Fragile Needs Population Directory	$25,000
Accomack County Department of Public Safety	VA19-SHSP-0073 Comprehensive Outfitting of New EOC	$254,500
Wise County	VA19-SHSP-0029 Enhancement of Southwest Mass Notification System	$50,820
City of Hampton Office of Emergency Management	VA19-SHSP-0104 Local and Regional Shelter Planning Capabilities and Family Assistance Center Planning	$90,000
Augusta County Sheriffs Office	VA19-SHSP-0060 Augusta County Rescue and Response Vehicle	$362,660
Spotsylvania County	VA19-SHSP-0048 Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office Request for Items to Enhance Terrorism Prevention Efforts	$95,834
Danville Fire Department	VA19-SHSP-0108 Danville Fire Department Technical Rescue Team 2019 State Homeland Security Grant	$87,377
Virginia Beach Office of Emergency Management	VA19-SHSP-0089 Virginia Beach Community Emergency Response Team Program Enhancements and Support	$22,000
Dickenson County Emergency Management	VA19-SHSP-0043 Regional Command Communications Vehicle	$150,000

Agency	Project (Eliminated – Low Score)	Cost
Manassas Park Police Department	VA19-SHSP-0066 City of Manassas Park Police Department Armored Vehicle	$168,950
City of Virginia Beach Police Dept	VA19-SHSP-0127 Night Vision Equipment	$92,000
Williamsburg Police Department	VA19-SHSP-0078 Preventing Terrorist Acts Through Strengthening of Infrastructure	$2,162,100
Henrico Fire	VA19-SHSP-0074 Water rescue PPE, and training	$99,120
Henrico County Division of Fire	VA19-SHSP-0075 Major Incident Connectivity Project	$17,075
Botetourt County Fire and EMS	VA19-SHSP-0081 Personal Trauma Kits	$13,138
Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office	VA19-SHSP-0009 Strategic Response Team Ballistic Vest Program	$22,000
Buckingham County Sheriff's Office	VA19-SHSP-0010 Buckingham County Sheriff's Office Interoperability Communications Improvement	$75,376
Botetourt County Fire and EMS	VA19-SHSP-0044 Botetourt County Multi-Band Portables	$81,000
Martinsville Fire and EMS	VA19-SHSP-0118 Mobile Command Vehicle	$260,000
Richmond Fire and Emergency Services	VA19-SHSP-0054 2019 SHSP Behavioral Health Initiative - Richmond Fire and Emergency Services	$73,200
Botetourt County Fire and EMS	VA19-SHSP-0080 Emergency Response Team Protective Equipment	$77,000
Page County Sheriff's Office	VA19-SHSP-0093 Page County Emergency Rescue Team	$21,100
Botetourt County Fire and EMS	VA19-SHSP-0079 Botetourt County SCBA Air Trailer	$140,000
Page County Sheriff's Office	VA19-SHSP-0094 Page County Criminal Investigation Incident Response Team	$22,800
Pittsylvania County Public Safety	VA19-SHSP-0068 Pittsylvania County Henry County Gateway	$29,578
Page County Sheriff's Office	VA19-SHSP-0095 Page County Law Enforcement Mobile Command Unit	$70,000
Henrico County Division of Fire	VA19-SHSP-0103 Utility Vehicle Replacement	$15,000
Fredericksburg Fire Department	VA19-SHSP-0088 Access Security for Fire Facilities, City Hall and Executive Plaza (City Offices)	$82,288
Henrico County Division of Fire	VA19-SHSP-0102 Incident Support Vehicle Replacement	$406,000
Alleghany County Sheriffs Office	VA19-SHSP-0070 ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIER	$249,091

Agency	Project (Eliminated – Low Score)	Cost
Botetourt County Fire and EMS	VA19-SHSP-0042 Emergency Management Response Vehicle	$65,000
Suffolk Police Department	VA19-SHSP-0111 Suffolk Police Motorcycle and Bicycle Transport Equipment	$18,700
Richmond Fire and Emergency Services	VA19-SHSP-0055 2019 SHSP Emissions Exhaust Capture System for Richmond Fire and Emergency Services	$98,000
Suffolk Police Department	VA19-SHSP-0110 Suffolk Police Cellular Analysis Equipment	$22,140
Lynchburg Fire Department Haz Mat Team	VA19-SHSP-0142 2019 SHSP Lynchburg Fire Department Hazardous Materials Team Preparedness.	$44,550
Page County Sheriff's Office	VA19-SHSP-0098 Page County Investigation Structure Security	$15,000
City of Fairfax	VA19-SHSP-0134 Access Control and Firearm Alert Systems for Employee and Public Safety	$153,166

Three projects were ineligible to function as the fiduciary agent for the proposed project.

TABLE 3 INELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Agency	Project (Ineligible)	Cost
Town of Pamplin	VA19-SHSP-0030 Town of Pamplin Community Preparedness Grant	$75,859
Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority	VA19-SHSP-0090 The Airports Authority's Police Department of Public Social Media Monitoring Platform.	$40,000
Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority	VA19-SHSP-0091 Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority's Police Department Tactical Response Equipment	$26,000

Two projects were re-programmed for the Hampton Roads Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant program for $493K

TABLE 4: PROJECTS THAT WERE RE-PROGRAMMED.

Locality	Project (Re-Programmed)	Cost
Chesapeake Police Department	VA19-SHSP-0007 Chesapeake Police Department Specialized Response Rescue Vehicle (SRV)	$283,900
James City County Police Department	VA19-SHSP-0008 Armored Rescue and Critical Incident Response Vehicle	$209,361