

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
2010 EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER GRANT**

**BACKGROUND:**

In January of 2009, the Council approved the Police Department's request to apply for a Department of Homeland Security Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Grant. Shortly thereafter the Council also approved a City Hall Space Re-use Project (\$1,200,000) in the annual Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) that included a project for the renovation and reuse of space within City Hall. Part of the project included the renovation and improvement of the City's Emergency Operations Center, which will necessitate the renovation of the Police Department. The project is to be funded by \$600,000 of local funding and \$600,000 from an EOC grant. This grant will be administered through the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division. In September, that agency notified us that the grant request for \$600,000 had been awarded.

Grant funds can be used for the construction, renovation and improvement of EOCs with the goal of improving the emergency management and preparedness capabilities of local governments by supporting flexible, secure and interoperable EOCs. The City will use the grant funding to carry out the renovation proposed in the CIP.

Grant funds can be used to fund 75% of the total project costs. The remaining portion must be provided by the City. The City funding of \$600,000 is therefore available for the local match for the EOC renovation. The remaining local funding will be used to renovate office space in the basement and first floor of City Hall.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Accept the 2010 Department of Homeland Security Emergency Operations Center Grant and approve participation in this grant program.
2. Do not accept the EOC Grant.

**MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Located within the Police Department space in City Hall, the current EOC has proven to be less than adequate for management of local emergency events involving only City staff. Management of a larger incident involving additional agencies would simply not be possible within this space. This grant, and the related CIP project, would more than double the space in the City's EOC while still retaining that space for police operations at other times.

It is an efficient partnership with federal and state interests to improve emergency management.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the 2010 Department of Homeland Security Emergency Operations Center Grant and participation in the grant program.