

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA SUMMARY FORM**



DEPARTMENT / COUNCIL OFFICE: Police

AGENDA DATE: 4/1/26

PUBLIC HEARING DATE:

CONTACT PERSON NAME: Asst Chief Humberto Talamantes **PHONE NUMBER:** 1 (915) 212-4309

2nd CONTACT PERSON NAME: Commander Reginald Moton **PHONE NUMBER:** 1 (915) 212-4147

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All Districts

AGENDA ITEM:

A resolution authorizing the Grants Administrator or designee to apply, submit, accept, reject, alter, or terminate grant applications, agreements, and related documents on behalf of the City to the Public Safety Office of the State of Texas, grant application number 5913701 for the City of El Paso Police Department project identified as "SHSP El Paso MATRIX Fusion Center FY26" to provide financial assistance to the City of El Paso. Requesting \$450,000.00, no cash match required. Grant period will be from September 1, 2026 – August 31, 2027.

ISSUE STATEMENT:

Council is being asked to authorize acceptance and implementation of the SHSP Fusion grant to sustain the Regional Fusion Center's intelligence and information-sharing operations. This ensures continued operational presence, intelligence coordination, and deterrence of transnational criminal activity. This approval enables reimbursement of eligible costs, enhances interagency collaboration, and sustains public safety efforts that directly protect our border community.

BACKGROUND:

The Police Department's Fusion Center (MATRIX) was officially recognized by the State of Texas and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in November 2010. Since 2008, the Police Department has financially supported the center's operation through Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) and, more recently, State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) grant funding. Grant funds will be used to pay the salaries of the contract crime analysts and training and maintenance of the Fusion Center's software and hardware solutions.

COUNCIL OPTIONS:

1. Approve the resolution authorizing submission and administration of the application.
2. Decline approval and direct staff to return with alternative options.

COMMITTEE REVIEW AND/OR RECOMMENDATION:

The Item was not reviewed by a City Council Committee

COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH (if applicable, as an attachment) – please include:

N/A

RELATED CITY POLICIES:

El Paso Police Department Crime Analysis Operations Manual

El Paso Police Department Criminal Investigations Operations Manual Chapter 27: Critical Operating Capability

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

The grant application for SHSP MATRIX Fusion Center FY2025 was approved on February 25, 2025 by City Council, FY2024 was approved by City Council on February 27, 2024, FY2023 was approved by City Council on February 7, 2023, FY2022 was approved by City Council on February 1, 2021, and FY2021 was approved by City Council on February 2, 2020. FY2020 was approved by City Council on February 18, 2020.

LEGAL REVIEW:

Legal counsel reviewed as a part of Council packet

Legal counsel reviewed in advance of packet as an individual item

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Grant funding in the amount \$450,000.00 is requested from the Public Safety Office of the State of Texas under the SHSP Regular FY26 program.

REPORTING OF CONTRIBUTION OR DONATION TO CITY COUNCIL:

N/A

NAME	AMOUNT (\$)

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Resolution
- B. Application

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

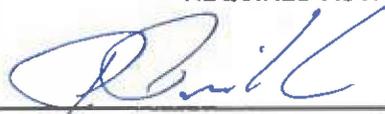
A/C Humbert Talamantes

915-212-4309

1594@elpasotexas.gov

*****REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION*****

SIGNATURE:



(If Agenda Summary Form is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso (the “City”) is eligible to apply for grant funding administered by the Public Safety Office of the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the El Paso City Council (“City Council”) seeks to obtain grant funding through the grant application number 5913701 for the El Paso Police Department project identified as SHSP-MATRIX Fusion Center FY26 (“Grant”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance No. 016016, the City Council previously designated the City Manager as the authorized signatory for City grant applications and acceptances in the interest of efficiency of administrative governmental operations; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, through the City Manager, has authorized the Grants Administrator as the Authorized Official for purposes of compliance with grant application, administration, and reporting requirements imposed by the Public Safety Office of the State of Texas and other applicable state granting authorities, including the power to apply for, accept, reject, alter or terminate the grant on behalf of the applicant agency; and

WHEREAS, the City acknowledges that, for purposes of compliance with grant requirements imposed by the Public Safety Office of the State of Texas and other applicable state granting authorities, a Financial Officer separate from the Authorized Official is required to administer grant-related financial and programmatic reporting functions on behalf of the City.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

1. **THAT**, the City Council, through the City Manager, has authorized the Grants Administrator as the City’s Authorized Official for purposes of compliance with grant application, administration, and reporting requirements imposed by the Public Safety Office of the State of Texas and other applicable state granting authorities, with the authority to apply, submit, accept, reject, alter, or terminate grant applications, agreements, and related documents on behalf of the City.
2. **THAT**, the Grants Administrator is authorized to apply for and submit to the Public Safety Office of the State of Texas, grant application number 5913701, for the City of El Paso Police Department project identified as SHSP-MATRIX Fusion Center FY26 to provide financial assistance to the City of El Paso.
3. **THAT**, the City of El Paso shall provide all applicable matching funds for the Grant, if applicable.

4. **THAT**, in the event of loss or misuse of said grant funds, the City of El Paso agrees to return all such funds for said grant to the Public Safety Office of the State of Texas in accordance with applicable grant requirements.

5. **THAT**, the City Council, through the City Manager, hereby designates the Deputy Chief Financial Officer, Comptroller, as the City's Financial Officer for purposes of compliance with grant requirements imposed by the Public Safety Office of the State of Texas and other applicable state granting authorities, either of whom is authorized to submit financial and programmatic reports and to perform grant-related actions on behalf of the City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the City Council, through the City Manager, hereby designates the Grants Administrator, as the City's Authorized Official who is authorized to execute any related documents to carry the intent of this Resolution, including but not limited to the grant agreement, the authorization of budget transfers, and/or revisions to the operation plan, as well as any grant amendments, corrections, or extensions of the grant agreement that increase, decrease, or de-obligate program funds, provided that no additional City funds are required.

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, 2026.

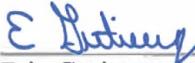
CITY OF EL PASO:

Renard U. Johnson
Mayor

ATTEST:

Laura D. Prine
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Eric Gutierrez
Senior Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:



Peter Pacillas
Department Director

Print This Page

Agency Name: El Paso, City of
Grant/App: 5913701 **Start Date:** 9/1/2026 **End Date:** 8/31/2027

Project Title: TF/FC - SHSP - MATRIX Fusion Center FY26
Status: Pending OOG Review

Eligibility Information

Your organization's Texas Payee/Taxpayer ID Number:
746000749

Application Eligibility Certify:

Created on: 2/25/2026 1:41:54 PM By: Edith Munoz

Profile Information

Applicant Agency Name: El Paso, City of
Project Title: TF/FC - SHSP - MATRIX Fusion Center FY26
Division or Unit to Administer the Project: El Paso Police Department: Fusion Center
Address Line 1: 300 N. Campbell
Address Line 2:
City/State/Zip: El Paso Texas 79901-1402
Start Date: 9/1/2026
End Date: 8/31/2027

Regional Council of Governments(COG) within the Project's Impact Area: Rio Grande Council of Governments

Headquarter County: El Paso

Counties within Project's Impact Area: Brewster,Culberson,El Paso,Jeff Davis,Presidio

Grant Officials:

Authorized Official

Name: Elda Hefner
Email: rodriguez-hefnere@elpasotexas.gov
Address 1: 300 N. Campbell
Address 1:
City: El Paso, Texas 79901
Phone: 915-212-1795 Other Phone: 915-212-1162
Fax:
Title: Ms.
Salutation: Ms.
Position: Grants Administrator

Financial Official

Name: Margarita Marin
Email: marinmm@elpasotexas.gov
Address 1: 300 North Campbell St
Address 1:
City: EL PASO, Texas 79901
Phone: 915-212-1174 Other Phone:
Fax: 915-212-0042
Title: Ms.
Salutation: Ms.
Position: Comptroller

Project Director

Name: Magali Franco
Email: 2699@elpasotexas.gov
Address 1: 911 N. Raynor St.

Address 1:**City:** El Paso, Texas 79903**Phone:** 915-212-4003 Other Phone: 915-820-8836**Fax:** 915-212-0260**Title:** Ms.**Salutation:** Lieutenant**Position:** Lieutenant Auxiliary Support**Grant Writer****Name:** Edith Munoz**Email:** C2087@elpasotexas.gov**Address 1:** 911 N. Raynor**Address 1:****City:** El Paso , Texas 79903**Phone:** 915-212-4286 Other Phone:**Fax:****Title:** Ms.**Salutation:** --- Select One ---**Position:** Research Assistant**Grant Vendor Information****Organization Type:** Unit of Local Government (City, Town, or Village)**Organization Option:** applying to provide homeland security services**Applicant Agency's State Payee Identification Number (e.g., Federal Employer's Identification (FEI) Number or Vendor ID):** 746000749**Unique Entity Identifier (UEI):** KLZGKXNFVTL4**Narrative Information****Overview**

The purpose of the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) is to support state and local efforts to prevent terrorism and other catastrophic events and to prepare the Nation for the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk to the security of the United States. HSGP provides funding to implement investments that build, sustain, and deliver the 32 core capabilities essential to achieving the National Preparedness Goal (the Goal) of a secure and resilient Nation. The building, sustainment, and delivery of these core capabilities are not exclusive to any single level of government, organization, or community, but rather, require the combined effort of the whole community. HSGP supports core capabilities across the five mission areas of Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery based on allowable costs.

Primary Mission and Purpose**State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) - Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities**

(LETPA): Supports state, tribal and local preparedness activities that continue to build law enforcement capabilities to prevent terrorist attacks and support critical prevention and protection activities. All LETPA investments must be consistent with capability targets set during the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) process, and gaps identified in the State Preparedness Report (SPR).

Many activities which support the achievement of target capabilities related to terrorism preparedness may simultaneously support enhanced preparedness for other hazards unrelated to acts of terrorism. However, **all SHSP-LETPA projects must assist grantees in achieving target capabilities related to preventing, preparing for, or protecting against acts of terrorism.**

Eligibility Requirements

Cybersecurity Training Requirement

Local units of governments must comply with the Cybersecurity Training requirements described in Section 772.012 and Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code. Local governments determined to not be in compliance with the cybersecurity requirements required by Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code are ineligible for OOG grant funds until the second anniversary of the date the local government is determined ineligible. Government entities must annually certify their compliance with the training requirements using the [Cybersecurity Training Certification for State and Local Government](#). A copy of the Training Certification must be uploaded to your eGrants application. For more information or to access available training programs, visit the Texas Department of Information Resources [Statewide Cybersecurity Awareness Training](#) page.

Resolution from Governing Body

Applications from nonprofit corporations, local units of governments, and other political subdivisions must submit a fully executed resolution with the application to be considered eligible for funding. The resolution must contain the following elements (see [Sample Resolution](#)):

- Authorization by your governing body for the submission of the application to the Public Safety Office (PSO) that clearly identifies the name of the project for which funding is requested;
- A commitment to provide all applicable matching funds;
- A designation of the name and/or title of an authorized official who is given the authority to apply for, accept, reject, alter, or terminate a grant;
- A designation of the name and/or title of a financial officer who is given the authority to submit financial and/or performance reports or alter a grant; and
- A written assurance that, in the event of loss or misuse of grant funds, the governing body will return all funds to PSO.

Criminal History Reporting

Entities receiving funds from PSO must be located in a county that has an average of 90% or above on both adult and juvenile dispositions entered into the computerized criminal history database maintained by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) as directed in the *Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 66*. The disposition completeness percentage is defined as the percentage of arrest charges a county reports to DPS for which a disposition has been subsequently reported and entered into the computerized criminal history system.

Counties applying for grant awards from the Office of the Governor must commit that the county will report at least 90% of convictions within five business days to the Criminal Justice Information System at the Department of Public Safety.

Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR)

Eligible applicants operating a law enforcement agency must be current on reporting complete UCR data and the Texas specific reporting mandated by 411.042 TGC, to the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) for inclusion in the annual Crime in Texas (CIT) publication. To be considered eligible for funding, applicants must have submitted a full twelve months of accurate data to DPS for the most recent calendar year by the deadline(s) established by DPS. Due to the importance of timely reporting, applicants are required to submit complete and accurate UCR data, as well as the Texas-mandated reporting, on a no less than monthly basis and respond promptly to requests from DPS related to the data submitted.

Entities That Collect Sexual Assault/Sex Offense Evidence or Investigate/Prosecute Sexual Assault or Other Sex Offenses

In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 420.034, any facility or entity that collects evidence for sexual assault or other sex offenses or investigates or prosecutes a sexual assault or other sex offense for which evidence has been collected, must participate in the statewide electronic tracking system developed and implemented by the Texas Department of Public Safety. Visit DPS's [Sexual Assault Evidence Tracking Program](#) website for more information or to set up an account to begin participating. Additionally, per Section 420.042 "A law enforcement agency that receives evidence of a sexual assault or other sex offense...shall submit that evidence to a public accredited crime laboratory for analysis no later than the 30th day after the date on which that evidence was received." A law enforcement agency in possession of a significant number of Sexual Assault Evidence Kits (SAEK) where the 30-day window has passed may be considered noncompliant.

National Incident Management System (NIMS) Implementation

Grantees are required to implement NIMS. The NIMS uses a systematic approach to integrate the best existing processes and methods into a unified national framework for incident management across all homeland security activities including prevention, protection, response, mitigation, and recovery. Grantees must use standardized resource management concepts for resource typing, credentialing, and an inventory to facilitate the effective identification, dispatch, deployment, tracking and recovery of resources.

Emergency Management Plans (Intermediate Level)

Cities and counties must have a current emergency management plan or be a legally established member of an inter-jurisdictional emergency management program with a plan on file with the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM). Plans must be maintained throughout the entire grant performance period. If you have questions concerning your Emergency Management Plan (preparedness) level, contact your Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) or your regional Council of Governments (COG). For questions concerning plan deficiencies, contact TDEM at tdem.plans@tdem.texas.gov.

Program Income

Applicant agrees to comply with all federal and state rules and regulations for program income and agrees to report all program income that is generated as a result of the project's activities. Applicant agrees to report program income through a formal grant adjustment and to secure PSO approval prior to use of the program income. Applicant agrees to use program income for allowable costs and agrees to expend program income immediately after PSO's approval of a grant adjustment and prior to requesting reimbursement of funds.

Deduction Method - Program income shall be deducted from total allowable costs to determine the net allowable costs. Program income shall be used for current costs unless PSO authorizes otherwise. Program income which the grantee did not anticipate at the time of the award shall be used to reduce the PSO award and grantee match rather than to increase the funds committed to the project.

Asset Seizures and Forfeitures - Program income from asset seizures and forfeitures is considered earned when the property has been adjudicated to the benefit of the plaintiff (e.g., law enforcement entity).

Compliance with State and Federal Laws, Programs and Procedures – Local Units of Government

Local units of government, including cities, counties and other general purpose political subdivisions, as appropriate, and institutions of higher education that operate a law enforcement agency, must comply with all aspects of the programs and procedures utilized by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") to: (1) notify DHS of all information requested by DHS related to illegal aliens in Agency's custody; and (2) detain such illegal aliens in accordance with requests by DHS. Additionally, counties and municipalities may NOT have in effect, purport to have in effect, or make themselves subject to or bound by, any law, rule, policy, or practice (written or unwritten) that would: (1) require or authorize the public disclosure of federal law enforcement information in order to conceal, harbor, or shield from detection fugitives from justice or aliens illegally in the United States, 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(iii); (2) impede federal officers from exercising authority under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a), § 1226(c), § 1231(a), § 1357(a), § 1366(1), or § 1366(3); (3) encourage or induce an alien to come to, enter, or reside in the United States in violation of law, 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(iv); (4) result in the illegal transport or movement of aliens within the United States, 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(ii). Lastly, eligible applicants must comply with all provisions, policies, and penalties found in Chapter 752, Subchapter C of the Texas Government Code.

Each local unit of government, and institution of higher education that operates a law enforcement agency, must download, complete and then upload into eGrants the [CEO/Law Enforcement Certifications and Assurances Form](#) certifying compliance with federal and state immigration enforcement requirements. This Form is required for each application submitted to PSO and is active until August 31, 2027 or the end of the grant period, whichever is later.

Compliance with State and Federal Laws, Programs and Procedures – Nonprofit Organizations

Each non-profit 501(c)(3) organization must certify that it does not have, and will continue not to have any policy, procedure, or agreement (written or unwritten) that in any way encourages, induces, entices, or aids any violations of immigration laws. Additionally, the organization certifies that it does not have in effect, purport to have in effect, and is not subject to or bound by any rule, policy, or practice (written or unwritten) that would: (1) encourage the concealment, harboring, or shielding from detection of fugitives from justice or aliens who illegally came to, entered, or remained in the United States, 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(iii); (2) impede federal officers from exercising authority under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a), § 1226(c), § 1231(a), § 1357(a), § 1366(1), or § 1366(3); (3) encourage or induce an alien to come to, enter, or reside in the United States in violation of law, 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(iv); (4) result in the illegal transport or movement of aliens within the United States, 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(ii). Lastly, the organization certifies that it will not adopt, enforce, or endorse a policy which prohibits or materially limits the enforcement of immigration laws, and will not, as demonstrated by pattern or practice, prohibit or materially limit the enforcement of immigration laws.

Each non-profit organization must download, complete and then upload into eGrants the [CEO/NGO Certifications and Assurances Form](#) certifying compliance with federal and state immigration enforcement requirements.

Program Requirements

Building and Sustaining Core Capabilities

1. All capabilities being built or sustained must have a clear link to one or more Core Capabilities in the National Preparedness Goal.
2. Many capabilities which support terrorism preparedness simultaneously support preparedness for other hazards. Grantees must demonstrate this dual-use quality for any activities implemented under this program that are not explicitly focused on terrorism preparedness. Activities implemented under SHSP must support terrorism preparedness by building or sustaining capabilities that relate to the prevention of, protection from, mitigation of, response to, and recovery from terrorism.
3. Funding should be used to sustain core capabilities. New capabilities should not be built at the expense of maintaining current and critically needed core capabilities. New capabilities must be aligned with capability targets and gaps identified through the THIRA/SPR process.

Mission Areas

The National Preparedness Goal organizes the core capabilities into the five mission areas:

- Prevention. Prevent, avoid or stop an imminent, threatened or actual act of terrorism.
- Protection. Protect our citizens, residents, visitors, and assets against the greatest threats and hazards in a manner that allows our interests, aspirations, and way of life to thrive.
- Mitigation. Reduce the loss of life and property by lessening the impact of future disasters.
- Response. Respond quickly to save lives, protect property and the environment, and meet basic human needs in the aftermath of a catastrophic incident.
- Recovery. Recover through a focus on the timely restoration, strengthening and revitalization of infrastructure, housing and a sustainable economy, as well as the health, social, cultural, historic and environmental fabric of communities affected by a catastrophic incident.

LETPA

Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities (LETPA)

The state is responsible for ensuring that at least 35 percent (35%) of the combined HSGP funds allocated under SHSP and UASI are dedicated towards law enforcement terrorism prevention activities, as defined in 6 U.S.C. 607.

Grant projects must be consistent with the [Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\) Information Bulletin \(IB\) 412](#) which discusses eligible activities outlined in:

- a. The [National Prevention Framework](#);
- b. The [National Protection Framework](#) where capabilities are shared with the prevention mission area;
- c. Section 2006 of the [Homeland Security Act of 2002](#), as amended; and
- d. The [FY 2007 Homeland Security Grant Program Guidance and Application Kit](#).

Activities eligible for use of LETPA focused funds include but are not limited to: Maturation and enhancement of designated state and major Urban Area fusion centers, including information sharing and analysis, threat recognition, terrorist interdiction, and training/hiring of intelligence analysts. Coordination between fusion centers and other analytical and investigative efforts. Implementation and maintenance of the Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) Initiative. Implementation of the "If You See Something, Say Something" campaign to raise public awareness of indicators of terrorism and terrorism-related crime and associated efforts to increase the sharing of information with public and private sector partners. Increased physical security, through law enforcement personnel and other protective measures, by implementing preventative and protective measures at critical infrastructure sites or at-risk nonprofit organizations.

Overall Certification

Each applicant agency must certify to the specific requirements detailed above as well as to comply with all requirements within the PSO Funding Announcement, the *Guide to Grants*, the *Grantee Conditions and Responsibilities*, any authorizing or applicable state and federal statutes and regulations to be eligible for this program.

X I certify to all of the application content and requirements.

Project Summary :

Briefly summarize the project, including proposed activities and intended impact.

This project supports the continued operation and enhancement of the El Paso Multi-Agency Tactical Response Information eXchange (MATRIX) Fusion Center to strengthen intelligence and information sharing capabilities, interdiction and disruption, public information and warning, operational coordination, terrorism prevention, and targeted violence mitigation. The MATRIX Fusion Center serves as the primary hub for the collection, analysis, and dissemination of threat-related information among local, state, tribal, and federal partners, as well as critical infrastructure stakeholders. Funding will sustain intelligence analysts, secure information-sharing systems, and analytical technology necessary to identify, assess, and disrupt emerging threats. The project will enhance suspicious activity reporting (SAR) intake and vetting, improve real-time situational awareness, and expand interagency collaboration to ensure timely dissemination of actionable intelligence. Emphasis will also be placed on maintaining compliance with federal privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties protections. By strengthening intelligence-led policing and multi-jurisdictional coordination, this investment directly supports homeland security priorities to prevent terrorism, reduce targeted violence, and protect the community from evolving threats. The project will improve regional readiness, accelerate threat response capabilities, and reinforce public safety through proactive information sharing and threat prevention efforts.

Problem Statement :

Provide a detailed account of the issues, threats or hazards that your project will target. For federal Homeland Security Grants, include specific references to the regional or state *Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA)*, as applicable.

The El Paso Fusion Center serves as the region's primary intelligence and information-sharing hub responsible for detecting, analyzing, and disseminating threat information to prevent terrorism, targeted violence, and transnational criminal activity. The 2025 RCGOG Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) and 2025 RCGOG Stakeholder Preparedness Review (SPR) identify terrorism, transnational organized crime, and threats to critical infrastructure as significant and evolving risks. These assessments further document capability gaps in Intelligence and Information Sharing, Forensics and Attribution, Screening, search, and detection, Interdiction and Disruption, and Operational Coordination. As a major international border community, El Paso faces complex security challenges shaped by cross-border trafficking routes, organized criminal enterprises, and human smuggling networks. The THIRA recognizes that these threat environments create vulnerabilities that could be exploited by terrorist actors seeking logistical support, mobility, or financial networks. Additionally, statewide THIRA findings highlight increasing risks associated with targeted violence. The MATRIX Fusion Center is responsible for vetting Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs), conducting link and trend analysis, producing intelligence bulletins, and disseminating actionable information to federal, state, local, tribal, and private-sector partners. However, the SPR identifies limitations in sustained analytic capacity and real-time information sharing, which impact the Center's ability to provide continuous threat monitoring and rapid intelligence dissemination. Without sustained investment, these capability gaps will reduce situational awareness, delay threat identification, and hinder coordinated prevention efforts. This project directly addresses THIRA-identified shortfalls by strengthening intelligence operations and enhancing multi-agency information sharing to improve early detection, disruption, and prevention of terrorism and targeted violence within the region and the State of Texas.

Existing Capability Levels :

Describe the existing capability levels, including resources that are currently in place to support this project prior to the use of grant funds.

The MATRIX Fusion Center is a federally and state-recognized entity and a vital component of the National Fusion Center Network. It plays a crucial role in Region VIII's ability to meet capability targets and mitigate regional threats and hazards. Since FY2007, the MATRIX Fusion Center has been a continuing project, receiving SHSP funding annually. According to the most recent assessment, the center's existing capability levels meet or exceed the U.S. DHS-prescribed baseline capabilities. In previous grant periods, the MATRIX Fusion Center has implemented several key advancements: 1. Gunshot Detection System: This real-time detection technology allows the center to identify and respond to gunshots immediately. Early detection enables rapid field deployment to reduce potential loss of life during active shooter incidents. 2. Alert Notification System (Everbridge): This system was integrated to provide immediate notifications to federal partners and local law enforcement agencies during critical incidents, enhancing collaboration and response capabilities. 3. El Paso Threat Assessment Team (EPTAT): Established in 2023, EPTAT is a Multi-Agency Threat Assessment Team designed to identify, mitigate, and intervene with individuals posing a threat-to-life risk within the community. EPTAT has achieved early successes and continues to expand its network of local, state, and federal stakeholders. The upcoming grant period will focus on broadening EPTAT's reach by engaging private sector partners. Additionally, we have implemented Tip411, Vigilant LPR services, and CLEAR for law enforcement for our crime analysts and watch officers. These capabilities underscore the MATRIX Fusion Center's commitment to maintaining high operational standards and adapting to evolving threats. Continued support through grant funding will allow the center to sustain and enhance its essential functions.

Capability Gaps:

Describe the capability gaps which will be addressed by the project. For federal Homeland Security Grants, include specific references to the regional or statewide State Preparedness Report (SPR).

The project's activities are designed to directly address the capability gaps identified in the 2025 RGCOG SPR and support the achievement of the 2025 RGCOG Region VIII THIRA's capability targets. This will be accomplished by sustaining and enhancing funding in three key areas: Forensics and Attribution (2025 THIRA, pg. 35): Maintain coverage of topics identified in the THIRA's capability targets and SPR's capability gaps by sustaining funding for four existing analysts. These analysts are critical to maintaining current capabilities and ensuring the delivery of actionable intelligence. Intelligence and Information Sharing (2025 THIRA, pg. 39): Support existing systems that enhance the center's ability to gather and analyze intelligence, conduct continuous assessments, and produce reports for dissemination across Region VIII, the state, and the national fusion center network. Screening, search and detection (2025 THIRA, pg. 42): Support region with enhanced capabilities such as drones and FLIR truck, to respond to major events, incidents and investigations. By addressing these capability gaps, the project ensures that Region VIII remains equipped to manage evolving threats and hazards while strengthening its contributions to state and national preparedness goals.

Impact Statement :

Describe the project goals/objectives and how this project will maintain capabilities or reduce capability gaps. This project supports the Information and Intelligence Sharing/Cooperation investment area and will enhance the State's ability to prevent, prepare for, protect against, and respond to acts of terrorism. It contributes to meeting the State's target capabilities and reducing overall risk by improving intelligence collection, integration, analysis, and information-sharing capabilities. Additionally, it fosters cooperation among state, federal, and local partners in critical areas of homeland security, including counterterrorism, cybersecurity, border security, and immigration enforcement. To address the growing "Threat to Life" risks, the MATRIX has assigned a dedicated analyst to work exclusively on Threat to Life initiatives in collaboration with the El Paso Threat Assessment Team (EPTAT) and local, state, and federal stakeholders. Impact: This project will address Intelligence and Information Sharing capability gaps identified in the State's Stakeholder Preparedness Review (SPR) and align with national. It will achieve this by supporting the execution of the intelligence cycle and ensuring threat information is shared with priority intelligence stakeholders following established dissemination protocols. Progress toward capability targets identified in the SPR will be measured through the SPR quantitative review process, which evaluates the development, sustainment, or loss of capabilities over time. Collaboration: The recipient is not aware of any logistical, technological, legal, policy, or other impediments to collaboration, networking, information sharing, or fostering a culture of national preparedness. If such impediments arise, the recipient will work with relevant partners to mitigate or eliminate them. The recipient will continue collaborating with all partners to prevent, prepare for, protect against, and respond to terrorism; meet target capabilities; support the national security mission of DHS and other federal agencies; and reduce risks to the high-risk urban area, the State, and the Nation. Performance: This project will sustain the MATRIX's current capabilities while enhancing performance. Continued funding is anticipated to improve the quality and quantity of analytic production and responsiveness to information requests, directly contributing to the center's mission and effectiveness.

Homeland Security Priority Actions:

Identify the Texas Homeland Security Priority Action most closely aligned with this project. Each Priority Action is linked with an *Objective from the Texas Homeland Security Strategic Plan (HSSP)*. List the Priority Action by number and text (e.g. *1.2.3 Expand and enhance the network of human sources that can provide detailed and relevant information on known or suspected terrorist and criminal enterprises.*)

1.1.1 Enhance intelligence coordination and collaboration across the state's network of intelligence nodes and with federal partner organizations, to include development of common processes and standards for recognized fusion centers.

Target Group :

Identify the target group and population expected to benefit from this project.

The MATRIX, located within the El Paso Police Department, will be the main recipient of this grant. Additionally, the grant will benefit the entire region by facilitating the sharing of information to prevent terrorist activities, with regional Local, State, Tribal and Federal Law Enforcement Agencies in RGCOG Region VIII. Current effected population group is approximately 865,660 in El Paso County.

Long-Term Approach:

Describe how the applicant agency will maintain the capabilities supported by this project without additional federal or state funds. If sustainment is dependent upon federal or state grants, describe the ongoing need for future grants, as applicable.

With this funding, the El Paso Police Department will be able to maintain a more efficient and effective regional response capacity. Continued funding will allow the department to enhance its response capabilities and improve

the quality of service to the citizens of El Paso and the RGCOG area of responsibility. In the absence of this funding, the department's capabilities would be diminished, requiring exploration of alternative funding sources, such as confiscated funds or general funds, to sustain current operational levels. Federal and state grants are essential to maintaining the department's response capabilities at their current level. Without continued support through these grants, the department may face challenges in upholding the high standards of service and regional security that are critical to public safety.

Project Activities Information

HSGP Instructions for Project Activity Selection

Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) applicants should only select one project activity. The eGrants system will allow multiple selections, but each HSGP subrecipient project must fit into one and only one of the Investment Categories that are listed as project activities under the "Activity List".

Selected Project Activities:

ACTIVITY	PERCENTAGE:	DESCRIPTION
Supporting Homeland Security Task Forces and Fusion Centers	100.00	Forces and Fusion Centers Projects that support directions under Federal Executive Order 14159, Protecting the American People Against Invasion, which calls for the establishment of Homeland Security Task Forces (HSTFs) nationwide. These multi-agency teams composed of federal and local law enforcement partners are tasked with disrupting and dismantling transnational criminal organizations, targeting cross border human smuggling and trafficking networks (especially those involving children), and using all appropriate law enforcement tools to support lawful immigration enforcement.

Measures Information

Objective Output Measures

OUTPUT MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
Number of exercises conducted.	1
Number of individuals participating in exercises.	7
Number of intelligence and information sharing systems created, maintained or enhanced.	1
Number of intelligence products created.	1000
Number of people trained.	7
Number of trainings conducted.	1

Objective Outcome Measures

OUTCOME MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
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Number of agencies actively participating in the Intelligence and Information Sharing program.	15
Number of intelligence products distributed/shared.	2500
Percent (%) of population that can be reached by emergency public information technologies.	0

Custom Output Measures

CUSTOM OUTPUT MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
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Custom Outcome Measures

CUSTOM OUTCOME MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
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Lobbying

For applicant agencies requesting grant funds in excess of \$100,000, have any federally appropriated funds been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant loan, or cooperative agreement?

Select the appropriate response:

- Yes
- No
- N/A

For applicant agencies that selected either **No** or **N/A** above, have any non-federal funds been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress in connection with this federal contract, loan, or cooperative agreement?

- Yes
- No
- N/A

Debarment

Each applicant agency will certify that it and its principals (as defined in 2 CFR Part 180.995):

- Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, sentenced to a denial of Federal benefits by a State or Federal Court, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency;
- Have not within a three-year period preceding this application been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property; or
- Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in the above bullet; and have not within a three-year period preceding this application had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.

Select the appropriate response:

I Certify

Unable to Certify

Enter the debarment justification:

Homeland Security Information

FUND SOURCE INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

DHS Project Type: Establish/enhance a terrorism intelligence/early warning system, center, or task force

Capabilities

Core Capability: Intelligence and Information Sharing

Identify if this investment focuses on building new capabilities or sustaining existing capabilities. :

Existing Capabilities (Sustain)

Are the assets or activities Deployable or Shareable: Shareable

Check if this Investment requires new construction or renovation, retrofitting, or modification of existing structures

Check if these funds will support a project that was previously funded with HSGP funding

Project Management Step Involved:

Check the step that most closely resembles the phase of the project activities to be completed during the grant period.

Step: Execute

Description: The period within the project lifecycle during which the actual work of creating the project's deliverables is carried out.

Process: Involves directing, accomplishing, managing, and completing all phases and aspects of work for a given project.

Milestones

Milestone: Analysts will produce a variety of products to include but not limited to a daily executive summary, weekly auto theft summary, monthly firearms, gang booking, and narcotics reports. Case support for investigative units, threat assessments for major events in the AOR. Trends and analysis for crimes.;

Completion Date: 09-30-2026

Milestone: Add New Fusion Partners; **Completion Date:** 12-01-2026

Milestone: Purchase software and equipment for Fusion Operations; **Completion Date:** 10-01-2026

NIMS Resources

___ Check if this project supports a NIMS typed resource

Enter the name of the typed resources from the Resource Type Library Tool:

Enter the ID of the typed resources from the Resource Type Library Tool:

Fiscal Capability Information

Section 1: Organizational Information

*** FOR PROFIT CORPORATIONS ONLY ***

Enter the following values in order to submit the application

Enter the Year in which the Corporation was Founded: 0

Enter the Date that the IRS Letter Granted 501(c)(3) Tax Exemption Status: 01/01/1900

Enter the Employer Identification Number Assigned by the IRS: 0

Enter the Charter Number assigned by the Texas Secretary of State: 0

Enter the Year in which the Corporation was Founded:

Enter the Date that the IRS Letter Granted 501(c)(3) Tax Exemption Status:

Enter the Employer Identification Number Assigned by the IRS:

Enter the Charter Number assigned by the Texas Secretary of State:

Section 2: Accounting System

The grantee organization must incorporate an accounting system that will track direct and indirect costs for the organization (general ledger) as well as direct and indirect costs by project (project ledger). The grantee must establish a time and effort system to track personnel costs by project. This should be reported on an hourly basis, or in increments of an hour.

Is there a list of your organization's accounts identified by a specific number (i.e., a general ledger of accounts)?

Select the appropriate response:

Yes

No

Does the accounting system include a project ledger to record expenditures for each Program by required budget cost categories?

Select the appropriate response:

Yes

No

Is there a timekeeping system that allows for grant personnel to identify activity and requires signatures by the employee and his or her supervisor?

Select the appropriate response:

Yes

No

If you answered 'No' to any question above in the Accounting System section, in the space provided below explain what action will be taken to ensure accountability.

Enter your explanation:

Section 3: Financial Capability

Grant agencies should prepare annual financial statements. At a minimum, current internal balance sheet and income statements are required. A balance sheet is a statement of financial position for a grant agency disclosing assets, liabilities, and retained earnings at a given point in time. An income statement is a summary of revenue and expenses for a grant agency during a fiscal year.

Has the grant agency undergone an independent audit?

Select the appropriate response:

- Yes
- No

Does the organization prepare financial statements at least annually?

Select the appropriate response:

- Yes
- No

According to the organization's most recent Audit or Balance Sheet, are the current total assets greater than the liabilities?

Select the appropriate response:

- Yes
- No

If you selected 'No' to any question above under the Financial Capability section, in the space provided below explain what action will be taken to ensure accountability.

Enter your explanation:

Section 4: Budgetary Controls

Grant agencies should establish a system to track expenditures against budget and / or funded amounts. Are there budgetary controls in effect (e.g., comparison of budget with actual expenditures on a monthly basis) to include drawing down grant funds in excess of:

a) Total funds authorized on the Statement of Grant Award?

- Yes
- No

b) Total funds available for any budget category as stipulated on the Statement of Grant Award?

- Yes
- No

If you selected 'No' to any question above under the Budgetary Controls section, in the space provided below please explain what action will be taken to ensure accountability.

Enter your explanation:

Section 5: Internal Controls

Grant agencies must safeguard cash receipts, disbursements, and ensure a segregation of duties exist. For example, one person should not have authorization to sign checks and make deposits.

Are accounting entries supported by appropriate documentation (e.g., purchase orders, vouchers, receipts, invoices)?

Select the appropriate response:

- Yes
- No

Is there separation of responsibility in the receipt, payment, and recording of costs?

Select the appropriate response:

- Yes
- No

If you selected 'No' to any question above under the Internal Controls section, in the space provided below please explain what action will be taken to ensure accountability.

Enter your explanation:

Budget Details Information

Budget Information by Budget Line Item:

CATEGORY	SUB CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL	UNIT/%
Personnel	Analyst (Organization)	Crime Analyst Ortigoza, crime analysts, is a full-time employee who provides specialized analytical support and expertise to the Fusion Center's gathering, continuous assessment, and development of intelligence and information reports and products to attain and mitigate capability gaps identified in both Region VII THIRA and State Preparedness Report (SPR). Salary period 09/01/2026 thru 08/31/2027. "	\$75,713.82	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75,713.82	100
Personnel	Analyst (Organization)	Crime Analyst Moreno is a full-time employee who provides specialized analytical support and expertise to the Fusion Center's gathering, continuous assessment, and development of intelligence and information reports and	\$67,560.74	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$67,560.74	100

products to attain and mitigate capability gaps identified in both Region VII THIRA and State Preparedness Report (SPR). Salary period 09/01/2026 through 08/31/2027. Represent the department at various meetings and interact with others in the department and representatives of other law enforcement agencies. Involves: Develop, support and maintain liaisons with federal, state, county and local law enforcement professionals to facilitate the exchange of crime and intelligence information, or information regarding changes or advancements within the field of law enforcement, or crime analysis, educational and training opportunities. Exchange information, coordinate efforts or present reports with narrative, statistical data, charts, maps or other graphics to convey detailed research findings and recommendations

		in summary format. "						
Personnel	Analyst (Organization)	"Crime Analyst Alvarez is a full-time employee who provides specialized analytical support and expertise to the Fusion Center's gathering, continuous assessment, and development of intelligence and information reports and products to attain and mitigate capability gaps identified in both Region VII THIRA and State Preparedness Report (SPR). Salary period 09/01/2026 through 08/31/2027. Represent the department at various meetings and interact with others in the department and representatives of other law enforcement agencies. Involves: Develop, support and maintain liaisons with federal, state, county and local law enforcement professionals to facilitate the exchange of crime and intelligence information, or information regarding changes or advancements	\$77,696.06	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$77,696.06	100

		<p>within the field of law enforcement, or crime analysis, educational and training opportunities. Exchange information, coordinate efforts or present reports with narrative, statistical data, charts, maps or other graphics to convey detailed research findings and recommendations in summary format. "</p>						
Personnel	Analyst (Organization)	<p>Crime Analysis Manager Emerick will manage intelligence and crime analysis functions, and coordinate intelligence with Federal, State, local, tribal and private sector agencies for the El Paso Police Department's Fusion Center. Supervise assigned personnel. Involves: Schedule, assign, instruct, guide and check work. Appraise employee performance. Provide for training and development. Enforce personnel rules and regulations and work behavior standards firmly and impartially. Counsel, motivate</p>	\$99,206.38	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$99,206.38	100

		and maintain harmony. Interview applicants. Recommend hiring, termination, transfers, discipline, merit pay or other employee status changes. Salary Period 09/01/2026 to 08/31/2027							
Contractual and Professional Services	21GN-00-MAIN Maintenance	"Citizen Observer-TIP411 subscription and support for a web-based community notification systems including crime alerts, anonymous tips, smartphone apps, and social media publishing, period: 09/01/2026 to 08/31/2027. " Total amount for yearly subscription is \$42,000.00. Fusion Grant will cover \$6949.84 and \$35,050.16 will be paid through general funds.	\$6,949.84	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,949.84	0	
Contractual and Professional Services	21GN-00-MAIN Maintenance	Vigilant - subscription to cloud-based private, license plate data collection, period 09/01/2026 to 08/31/2027	\$74,699.96	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$74,699.96	0	
Contractual and Professional Services	21GN-00-MAIN Maintenance	West Publishing-CLEAR for Law Enforcement, online database used to locate individuals,	\$44,173.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$44,173.20	0	

		businesses, assets, and criminal records to accelerate investigations. Period: 09/01/2026 to 08/31/2027							
Travel and Training	Out-of-State Registration Fees (Training)	National Fusion Center Conference in Washington D.C Training Dates: April of 2027, for Director & Deputy Director to attend. Would cover Airfare, Hotel, Per/Diem, Registration, and Taxi/Uber, Total: \$4000.00	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	0	

Source of Match Information

Detail Source of Match/GPI:

DESCRIPTION	MATCH TYPE	AMOUNT
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Summary Source of Match/GPI:

Total Report	Cash Match	In Kind	GPI Federal Share	GPI State Share
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Budget Summary Information

Budget Summary Information by Budget Category:

CATEGORY	OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL
Contractual and Professional Services	\$125,823.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$125,823.00
Personnel	\$320,177.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$320,177.00
Travel and Training	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00

Budget Grand Total Information:

OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL
\$450,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$450,000.00

Condition Of Fundings Information

Condition of Funding / Project Requirement	Date Created	Date Met	Hold Funds	Hold Line Item Funds
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You are logged in as **User Name:** emunozmo