June 29, 2020

Emiliano Falcon

[efalcon@aclum.org](mailto:efalcon@aclum.org)

Re: [June 15, 2020 Public Records Request (R000220-061520)](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_h4GBkvCJgJJm5pqa3QDKcn1_husv9EV/view?usp=sharing)

Dear Emiliano:

The City of Boston (City) has received your request for public records. Specifically, you stated:

*Request*

The Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) is a grant program of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). In Massachusetts, a municipality seeking consideration from this grant submits a request through the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS). EOPSS is a state agency. EOPSS coordinates with DHS. If an application is approved, the municipality expends funds as approved, and submits a request for reimbursement through EOPSS for UASI funds.

The City of Boston is part of a nine (9) community public entity called the Metro Boston Homeland Security Region (MBHSR), including Boston, Brookline, Cambridge, Chelsea, Everett, Quincy, Revere, Somerville, and Winthrop. A public body consisting of representatives from each community is called Jurisdiction Points of Contact (JPOC).

When a grant is approved the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) receives authorization from JPOC to submit a document called an Investment Justification. As a fiduciary, the OEM manages the funds expended both on behalf of the Boston Police Department (BPD) including the Boston Regional Intelligence Center (BRIC). The OEM also manages funds expended by the other members of the JPOC, as well as funds expended by the OEM itself. The records responsive to your request consist of spreadsheets that break down these expenses for the period of the request.

Please note that the spreadsheet includes some acronyms. To assist in your understanding of each spreadsheet, OEM has also prepared a summary for each that provides an explanation of these acronyms. Often the OEM expends funds for products and services that benefit all nine members of the JPOC; for example, software, or software maintenance agreements.

Other responsive records consist of meeting minutes and agendas for the JPOC for periods in which the JPOC approves items to be included in the Investment Justification document. Also included are Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the request period.

As for communications, as indicated above the City generally does not communicate directly with the federal government regarding UASI funding opportunities. Occasionally, the City does receive notices and other alerts from the federal government, and to the extent that those notices exist, they will be provided with the responsive records.

Please note that no records were withheld or redacted and all fees have been waived. If you have any questions or wish to make a follow-up request please contact the City through its public records request portal.

Very truly yours,



Shawn A. Williams, Esq.

Director of Public Records

Records Access Officer