

Memorandum
City of Lawrence
Police Department

To: David L. Corliss, City Manager
From: Tarik Khatib, Chief of Police
Cc: Diane Stoddard, Assistant City Manager
Cynthia Wagner, Assistant City Manager
Date: September 26, 2012
Re: Homeland Security Grant

The Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) was first put into place in 2003 to assist law enforcement agencies with equipment and training to heighten security and preparedness as well as to improve their capabilities in response to critical incidents. Awards for equipment are granted by region, with a particular law enforcement agency being responsible for the asset on a regular basis. The objective is that at the regional level, there exists equipment and training that may be called into action in preparation for or after a critical incident has occurred anywhere within the region. In this fashion, the local agency and community benefits from the use of the equipment on a regular basis while the preparedness of the region as a whole is increased. Since 2004, the Lawrence Police Department has been awarded \$465,000 in grants through the HSGP. This includes funding for specialized investigative vehicles (crime scene, surveillance), advanced forensic examination equipment (drying chambers for blood soaked clothing and other items), and officer protective equipment (ballistic vests, shields, and respirators).

One Department equipment need identified over the last several years has been an armored rescue vehicle. Such a vehicle would increase the Department's capability and officer safety in response to critical incidents involving active shooters, barricaded and armed individuals, and perimeter control out in the open. Officer exposure to potentially lethal consequences diminishes the effectiveness of the law enforcement response as well as unnecessarily delays the rescue of injured persons. A purposefully built vehicle which protects its occupants is a necessary component of any professionally equipped law enforcement agency; especially one that is responsible for safety and response in a large university city.

In early 2012, the Department applied for a grant through the HSGP for such a vehicle. The Department was recently advised the project has been awarded at a funding level of \$152,500. This is a 100 % grant with no matching funds needed. This brings the total to \$617,000 in funding the Department has been able to obtain through this program for necessary equipment that benefits both Lawrence and the North East Region. The anticipated delivery time for the vehicle is late 2012 or early 2013. The

vehicle is built on a heavy duty truck chassis. Attached are pictures of what the vehicle will likely look like before decals and Lawrence Police markings.

Exterior:



Interior:

