METRO BOSTON HOMELAND SECURITY REGION
FFY2005 URBAN AREAS SECURITY INITIATIVE
GRANT PROGRAM

ADDENDUM TO MBHSR 2004 REGIONAL PLAN

OVERVIEW
The mission of the Mayor’s Office of Homeland Security, hereinafter MOHS, is to
enhance the region’s capacity to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from
chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive attacks.

The following outlines the primary goals and objectives set forth by the Mayor’s Office
of Homeland Security and the Metro Boston Homeland Security Region’s (MBHSR)
Subcommittees as we collectively move forward in our regional homeland security
planning, focusing on prevention, preparedness, response and recovery:

Goals
1. To develop a regional approach to homeland security endeavors across
disciplines, consistent with the MBHSR Regional Plan and the Commonwealth’s
Homeland Security Strategy;
2. To promote regional inter- and intra-disciplinary approaches to homeland
security plans;
3. To coordinate and oversee comprehensive, cooperative and accountable
homeland security programs, projects, and initiatives across the region;
4. To prioritize regional and jurisdictional-specific homeland security operational
needs including but not limited to planning, training, exercises, and equipment.
5. To work cooperatively with other Homeland Security Regions within the
Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Objectives
1. To communicate and coordinate regional homeland security priorities, programs
and initiatives across jurisdictions, with the Metro Boston Office of Homeland
Security (OHS), and other discipline committees, as needed,
2. To maintain consistent lines of communication throughout the MBHSR and
across disciplines, holding meetings and planning sessions, as necessary;
3. To develop, plan, and implement regional trainings with the focus on
prevention, identification, preparedness, response, and recovery operations, and
both inter- and intra-discipline coordination during CBRNE WMD incidents;
4. To consider and submit requests for regional equipment procurement and
develop a means for tracking equipment inventory to effectively prevent,
prepare, respond and recover from CBRNE WMD incidents.
5. To develop regional plans for across jurisdictions that serves to improve
response capabilities to a CBRNE WMD event;
6. To develop and enhance mutual aid agreements and enhance public/private relationships between EMS agencies in the MBRSR as needed.
7. To actively participate in Metro-Boston Homeland Security planning sessions, exercises, and other meetings, as needed.

PROJECT DETAILS AND PROJECTED ACTIVITIES FOR FFY2005

MBSHR partners continue to be actively engaged in meeting the goals and objectives outlined in the FFY2003 UASI Strategy prepared in the fall of 2003, and more recently in the MBHSR Regional Plan for FFY2004. As the MBHSR moves forward into the FFY2005 UASI project period, we continue our commitment to completing the goals, objectives, and individual homeland security tasks outlined during the past 18-months. Since the submission of the FFY2004 Regional Plan, MOHS and its MBHSR partners have also identified new homeland security initiatives. Based on the focus and direction of the homeland security grants outlined by both our federal and state partners, our region has had to adapt, moving from response and recovery to prevention.

As outlined in the FFY2005 Initial Strategy Implementation Plan (ISIP), the following projects will continue throughout the 30-month funding period authorized by the Department of Homeland Security. These initiatives will be of primary focus, as they are long term objectives that require proper planning and related training, exercise equipment needs that can be time consuming. Per the FFY2005 UASI guidelines, the Biannual Implementation Strategy Report (BSIR) will be used to amend, update, and report all activities the Metro Boston Homeland Security Region will be engaged in moving forward. Further, the specifications concerning budgeted needs will also be reported within the BSIR.

PROJECT A: “Establish/enhance administrative and operational homeland security infrastructure within the Metro-Boston Homeland Security Region, including capacity for program evaluation”. (See FFY2005 ISIP Project “Metro Boston Homeland Security Administration and Infrastructure”)

MOHS Administration
Since the Mayor’s Office of Homeland Security’s establishment in April of 2004, OHS continues to serve as the conduit for all homeland security initiatives for the City of Boston, as well as the fiduciary for the Region’s homeland security grant programming. During the FFY2005 project period, and beyond, OHS staff will continue its commitment to the oversight, administration and management of these needs, as well as serve as the local point of contact for state and federal agencies relating to rules/regulations, coordination of homeland security planning, consistent policy
guidance, and general needs identified by the City and the Region. Specifically, OHS will apply funds to support the following:

- Staffing continuity, including Director, Assistant Directors, discipline coordinators, Finance Manager, and other staff deemed necessary for the Region to maintain proper administrative oversight;
- Planning costs related to the enhancement of regional agency cooperation;
- Costs associated with policy guidance and grant administration;
- Travel costs to support staff for participation in all applicable federal, state, and local meetings, conferences, and seminars;
- Office administration supplies;
- Other costs associated with these objectives, as authorized by the Department of Homeland Security and the Executive Office of Public Safety.

Memoranda of Agreement/Mutual Aid Agreements
The MBHSR continues to formalize mutual aid agreements/memorandums of agreements among their discipline partners. These agreements will be structured accordingly to meet regional needs, as cooperation is required in order to streamline regional homeland security initiatives. Mutual Aid Agreements will continue to be made amongst the regional partners, as needed, to ensure effective cross-jurisdictional and inter-disciplinary responses to a major incident and/or use of shared equipment. FFY2005 funds may be used in order to retain consulting services, should they be needed, in order to develop and implement these agreements among regional partners.

Public/Private Agency Contracts
MOHS continues to expand upon, enhance and formalize partnerships in the Region, including those with private EMS partners and hospitals, in order to streamline the regional homeland security initiatives. Any and all costs associated with the issuance of said contracts will be incurred within the allowable expenditures associated with the MOHS staff support. We do not anticipate any additional costs associated with this objective.

City of Boston/Northeastern University Project
This joint initiative serves to establish an Institute of Public Policy for Emergency Management and Homeland Security with a dual mission, (1) the creation and maintenance of a data base cataloging expertise and unique skill sets and persons possessing same levels, certifications, credentials, etc.; and (2) to provide expertise for establishing strategies, research, problem solving and support functions relating to emergency management, homeland security, and terrorism prevention.

Projected FFY2005 Allocation for Project A: $1,000,000
Costs associated with maintaining the infrastructure to support MOHS and its responsibilities associated with managing and overseeing all homeland security
initiatives will include: staffing, organizational support, supplies and equipment, and some training costs. Additional budget details will be forthcoming as per the requirements of the Biannual Strategy Implementation Plan.

**PROJECT B:** "Establish/enhance a sustainable homeland security exercise program (COMS G3; BUA G1-O3 and G1-O7). (See FY2005 SIP Project "Homeland Security Exercise Programs")"

**Regional Exercise Planning**
Large-scope exercises will continue to be a priority for the MBHSR. Operation Atlas has been a tremendous success and will serve as the model for major, large-scope exercises going forward. Scenarios under consideration at present for future large-scope exercises include transit-, improvised explosive devices (related to HSPD-8), and LNG-related threats.

**Discipline Exercises**
The development of specialized table top, functional, and full scale exercises will be a priority during FY2005. This will include discipline specific, and cross disciplinary exercises for law enforcement, emergency medical services, public health, fire services, emergency management and health care entities among others. Consideration will also be given to smaller-scale exercises for the MBHSR disciplines. The exercise plans will be initiated by the regional subcommittees. Areas of focus include:

- Multi-hospital and/or multi-jurisdictional exercises that test their preparedness and response for terrorist incidents, likely involving a CBRNE WMD;
- Operations during the liquefied natural gas (LNG) transports;
- Intelligence gathering and distribution;
- Mass dispensing and prophylaxis;
- Decontamination, triage, crowd management, and mutual aid;
- CBRNE response and recovery operations;
- Interoperable communications;
- Other exercises identified as needed.

**Projected FFY2005 Allocation for Project B: $2,520,000**
Costs associated with the regional exercise program will include: contractual support (on an as needed basis only), costs for supplies and equipment directly related to the development, planning and implementation of the exercise, and overtime costs associated with exercise implementation and participation. Additional budget details will be forthcoming as per the requirements of the Biannual Strategy Implementation Plan.
NIMS Compliance
Since NIMS compliance will be necessary for future receipt of federal homeland security grants, MOHS is coordinating with its regional partners in identifying training opportunities that meet the NIMS requirements. Further, MOHS will work with its regional partners in order to maintain a standard of training for all disciplines across the nine communities.

However, NIMS is not solely limited to a training mandate. The MBHSR must work diligently over the next several years to meet the planning and operational integration requirements set forth as part of NIMS. The MBHSR will endeavor to complete the NIMCAST to determine the “as is” or current state. Moving forward from there, the region will address planning and organizational issues by instituting new or upgrading existing policies, procedures, and/or agreements.

DelValle Institute for Emergency Preparedness
Infrastructure Support
In order to ensure the continued availability of the DelValle Institute’s course offerings in weapons of mass destruction awareness and operations (which includes instruction on personal protective equipment and proper decontamination protocols), MOHS will continue its support of the Institute’s existing infrastructure, including instructors, supplies, training equipment and other allowable training costs.

Training for First Responders
The training opportunities which DelValle was approved by ODP in FFY2003 to provide to the MBHSR first responders will continue throughout the FFY2005 project period. These training sessions, which are provided to law enforcement, public health and medical personnel, and EMS providers, will continue to be a priority for our first responders to attend. Costs for overtime and backfill will be available in order to achieve our goal of having as many first responders trained in order to be able to effectively respond to any CBRNE incident. The DelValle Institute is also offering a 40-hour Advanced WMD course (approved under the FFY2003 SHSP grant program), which is currently being made available to law enforcement and EMS providers. Additional funding will be used to support the costs of ODP approved training providers, like that of the Emergency Management Institute (EMI) and others, to conduct trainings throughout our region.

Discipline Specific Training Priorities
The Region’s discipline subcommittees will continue to assess gaps in training capabilities, as it’s critically important to ensure all first responders are properly trained
in a number of areas. Further, trainings will be prioritized for equipment procured with homeland security funds. Some of the training’s that have already been identified for consideration in FFY2005 include the following: personal protective equipment training; continuation of WMD awareness for all responders (both initial and recertification) training; response and recovery operations; incident management/NIMS in compliance with HSPD-5 and the integration of the concepts outlined in HSPD-8.

Projected FFY2005 Allocation for Project C: $2,000,000
Costs associated with the regional training program will include: contractual support (on an as needed basis only), costs for supplies and equipment directly related to the development, planning and implementation of the training, and overtime costs associated with training implementation and participation. Additional budget details will be forthcoming as per the requirements of the Biannual Strategy Implementation Plan.

PROJECT D: “Establish/enhance a terrorism intelligence/early warning system, center, or task force” (COMS G2; BUA G1-O4). (See FFY2005 ISIP Project “Regional Intelligence / Early Warning System”)

Enhancements to Regional Intelligence Capacities
The MBHSR continues its commitment to the integration of the region’s intelligence capabilities, ensuring that systems are in place for the proper mechanisms for collecting intelligence and for communication to flow between jurisdictions. MOHS serves as a tool for coordination of these efforts under the federal UASI guidelines.

At the direction of the Boston Police Department, increased intelligence capabilities will be put in place. Specifically, the concept of a central facility for the region will become a reality, where information will flow to and from one location for the Region relating to terrorist and homeland security Costs associated with this initiative will include planning and consultant costs, equipment and infrastructure enhancements (software, hardware, etc.), general training, overtime for training, and exercises as needed. A direct link between the Boston Police Department’s Intelligence Center and the Massachusetts State Police Fusion Center will also be a significant component of this initiative. Some of the already identified priorities associated with this initiative include examining the potential of expanding the Boston Police Department’s secure web site for intelligence gathering and sharing; enhancing capabilities concerning response during an incident, and establishing classification procedures and methods to maximize timeliness of the information being shared.

Projected FFY2005 Allocation for Project D: $1,000,000
Costs associated with enhancing the regional intelligence capabilities will include: contractual support (on an as needed basis only), costs for supplies and equipment
directly related to the development, planning and implementation of the intelligence project, any overtime costs associated with the project’s implementation and participation of personnel, and training and exercise costs associated with the project’s success. Additional budget details will be forthcoming as per the requirements of the Biannual Strategy Implementation Plan.

PROJECTS E & K: Develop/enhance interoperable communications systems (COMS G4; BUA G1-O5) and to Establish/enhance Geographic Information Systems (GIS) capabilities (COMS G2; BUA G1-O2 and G1-O4). (See “Interoperable Communications”, FFY2005 ISIP Project).

Communications Interoperability
The improvement of technical systems between the wide variety of computer and communications systems now in use and the active integration of these systems across the various MBHSHR discipline will continue into FFY2005. Building on the FFY2004 SHSGP allocations for Interoperable Communications, the Office of Homeland Security will use the Comprehensive 5-Year Strategic Plan currently under development to guide implementation of all communications interoperability initiatives in the MBHSHR.

Though formal requests have been made by a number of regional partners to date, OHS is holding back on any formal approvals for equipment until the recommendations of the Interoperability Committee have been outlined and the Strategic Plan is completed. Following the recommendations made by the Interoperability Committee, OHS will look to support the integration of various technologies which will enable various disciplines across the region to communicate effectively.

Enterprise GIS
The City of Boston seeks to integrate its GIS systems across the many agencies responsible for any prevention, response and recovery efforts of a CBRNE/terrorist/all-hazards incident. As per the federal guidelines regarding the integration of all prospective agencies involved in these incidents, including transportation, health departments, public works, inspectional services; as well as traditional first responders of emergency management, emergency medical services, fire and police, this long term initiative serves to ensure that the data critically necessary for managing any incident is properly catalogued, maintained, updated and shared. MOHS believes that with the continued development of GIS systems and the updates being made throughout the City and the region, is detrimental and financially ill advised to support individual systems moving forward. As such, the Citywide GIS Project (which was first proposed in FFY2003) serves to streamline and make significant improvements to the systems currently in place in order to provide a proper and strong baseline to move forward with.
Projected FFY2005 Allocation for Project E/K: $5,000,000
Costs associated with the regional interoperable communications and GIS project(s) will include: contractual support, costs for supplies and equipment directly related to the development, planning and implementation of regional communications and integrated systems, any overtime costs associated with the projects’ implementation and participation of personnel, and training and exercise costs associated with the projects’ success. Additional budget details will be forthcoming as per the requirements of the Biannual Strategy Implementation Plan.

PROJECT F: “Assess the vulnerability of and harden critical infrastructure” (COMS G1; BUA G1-O6). (See FFY2005 ISIP Project “Critical Infrastructure Protection”)

Critical Infrastructure Protection and Target Hardening
It is vital to the preparedness of the region to begin consultation for hardening targets and assets as identified by DHS, FBI, and by a recent OHS survey of jurisdictions as appropriate. The FFY2005 project period will provide the MBHSR the ability to implement the findings from this assessment, which we anticipate to be underway during this quarter.

Harbor Security Initiative
MOHS is joining with a number of federal and state partners including the US Coast Guard, Massport, UMass Boston and Dartmouth and the US Naval Underwater Research Center, in the Harbor Security Initiative. This multi-year project serves to implement surface, air, and sub-surface technology providing a holistic approach to protecting the Port of Boston, agreed by all regional federal, state and local partners as a critical infrastructure site in our Region. It will incorporate state of the art technology complemented by all-hazard (CBRNE) detection and response craft, portable underwater detection devices, remote access data collation capability and the appropriate protocols and MOA’s to permit inter-agency strategic and tactical command, control and coordination.

Integration of Regional Camera Surveillance Network
As a sub-project of the Harbor Security Initiative, the Law Enforcement Subcommittee is developing the Regional Camera Surveillance System, which will ultimately be tied into the parent Surveillance Initiative. The system will be designed with the following in mind; (1) Full integration to the Harbor Security Initiative; (2) Expanding on current surveillance capacity of the region; (3) Location of the cameras, critical infrastructure to be viewed; (4) Data type collected by the system (audio, video, infrared, etc.); (5) Access and control issues concerning both cameras and data; (6) Quantity of cameras; and (7) MOA’s and licenses with public and private parties.
Projected FFY2005 Allocation for Project F: $2,500,000
Costs associated with the regional Harbor Security Initiative will include: contractual support, costs for supplies and equipment directly related to the development, planning and implementation of this initiative, any overtime costs associated with the project’s implementation and participation of personnel, and training and exercise costs associated with the project’s success. Please Note: Any costs associated with needs of the state and federal partners will be the responsibility of those agencies. Additional budget details will be forthcoming as per the requirements of the Biannual Strategy Implementation Plan.

PROJ ECTS G & L: Establish/enhance Citizen Corps Councils (COMS G1; BUAS G1-O3) and to Establish/enhance a regional, unified, coordinated risk communication and public awareness strategy (COMS G1; BUAS G2-O1). (See FFY2005 ISIP Project “Community Training/Public Awareness”)

Community Awareness and Anti-Terrorism Training for Public/Private Partners
The Mayor’s Office of Homeland Security has joined in partnership with the Boston Police Department to develop a community awareness and anti-terrorism training initiative under FFY2004. Focusing on the need to educate the public on what “homeland security” is, how targeting terrorism is as important at the community level as it is at the state and federal levels, what to do if something is “out of the ordinary”, how to work with local law enforcement, and what plans residents should have in place in the event of a crisis/terrorist incident, are all topic areas the curriculum will focus on. The programming will assess existing awareness training/programs, identify gaps, integrate programs when applicable, and provide a mechanism for all residents to participate (e-learning, regional presentations, etc.). Once completed, the program will also be available to regional disciplines such as fire, EMS, public health, and the medical community personnel, as curriculum’s focus on awareness and prevention is as important for these groups as the general public.

Projected FFY2005 Allocation for Project G/L: $200,000
Costs in FFY2005 associated with this program include overtime for providing the training (if needed), supplies and equipment, and any costs associated with the implementation of the curriculum to the Region’s partners, at their request. Additional budget details will be forthcoming as per the requirements of the Biannual Strategy Implementation Plan.

PROJECT H: Establish/enhance emergency operations center (COMS G4; BU A G2-01). (See FFY2005 ISIP Project “Regional Emergency Operations Center”)

The MBHSR is currently negotiating a contract with an experienced vendor to conduct assessments of each of the region’s Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs). The goal is
to identify the most comprehensive, operationally sound, and fiscally feasible and appropriate recommendations for the improvement of the existing EOCs. These recommendations shall be based on complete assessments of the current EOC capabilities, operations, policies, and procedures.

At the conclusion of EOC evaluations, the region will have in hand a roadmap for enhancement of each of the MBHSR’s EOCs, including recommendations for site-specific improvements as well as holistic, region-wide improvements that shall serve to integrate regional communication, coordination, and operations.

Concurrently with improving existing EOCs, the MBHSR seeks to design and create a regional Homeland Security Integration Center. The Metro-Boston Homeland Security Integration Center (MBHSIC) will co-locate emergency operations, homeland security training, intelligence and information collection and sharing, and continuity of government functions. In addition, the MBHSIC will serve as the MBHSR’s backup EOC and should be capable of supporting operations throughout the MBHSR. The region will work through a concept visualization of the MBHSIC during the FFY2004 project period and will move forward to actualization during the FFY2005 project period.

Projected FFY2005 Allocation for Project H: $4,495,000
Costs associated with the regional emergency operations center(s) assessment and implementation will include: contractual support, costs for supplies and equipment directly related to the development, planning and implementation of the regional integration center, any overtime costs associated with the project’s implementation and participation of personnel, and training and exercise costs associated with the project’s success. Additional budget details will be forthcoming as per the requirements of the Biannual Strategy Implementation Plan.

PROJECT I: Establish/enhance regional response teams (COMS G3; BUA G2-O1 and G2-O2) (See FFY2005 ISIP Project “Regional Response Teams”)

Regional Response and Rescue Teams
The MBHSR’s Subcommittees, spearheaded by law enforcement and fire services, have reinvigorated discussions of regional response teams, a concept originally proposed in the FFY2003 UASI Strategy. The “teams”, conceptually based on the US&R structure, would serve as a regional response team providing each jurisdiction in the MBHSR with a heavy rescue vehicle and equipment cache to draw from in the event of a collapse or terrorist incident. The emergency response teams serve a significant benefit to the region, responding to any and all events immediately, and any hazard site could be appropriately managed until federal assistance (if necessary) arrived. Currently,
there exists a significant void in the regional capacity to respond to structural collapse in the event of a terrorist event.

On the law enforcement side, discussions are currently underway to assess the need and viability for a regional tactical team providing the MBHSR with fully trained and equipped team of officers from each jurisdiction to be available for any homeland security-related event/incident. At minimum, there is significant interest in streamlined training across the region for all tactical personnel. The majority of this project will be based on training with cost-sharing initiatives included for equipment and any other portions not directly listed under UASI allowable costs.

Projected FFY2005 Allocation for Project 1: $295,000
Costs associated with the assessment, development and possible implementation of regional response teams include: planning and assessment needs, training and exercise costs, and any administrative/contractual costs to establish a regional MOA (should one be deemed appropriate). Additional budget details will be forthcoming as per the requirements of the Biannual Strategy Implementation Plan.

Regional Response Planning for the Medical Community
Identified in the FFY2003 UASI Strategy, the MBHSR’s health care/medical partners will continue to develop its regional plans, in concert with OHS, EOPS, Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Boston Public Health Commission, Boston EMS and the Region’s hospitals, which facilitate the orderly response procedures under an “Hour 1”, “Hour 2” and “Long Term” outlook for response plans. Further, they will work to develop an overall consolidated response plan for hospitals to effectively return to “business as usual” following an incident. During the FFY2005 project period, MBHSR hopes to complete a full Regional Response Plan, which will include communication needs, response protocols, formal communication plans for mobile decontamination units (MDU) (currently in existence), etc.

During FFY2005, the MBHSR Public Health Subcommittee will work to identify existing gaps in the region’s public health response plans and work toward the development of formal emergency operations plans within each jurisdiction, beginning with communication protocols, call lists, and other “Hour 1” response needs.

Mass Prophylaxis Plans
The MBSHR seeks to integrate the mass prophylaxis plans currently under development among the region’s public health partners and identify areas for
enhancement. The Boston Public Health Commission will share progress in EPS planning with its area partners to offer them ideas for their own efforts. In order to effectively implement proper plans, contractors will be sought to visit the Region’s jurisdictions and perform dispensing site surveys (currently being integrated into the emergency operations center assessments). Two important aspects of the site survey would include communications and infrastructure. Partner cities will conduct pre-planning on the part of the jurisdiction to identify sites. It’s also been identified that a formal partnership with the Department of Mental Health is needed in order to provide support services in response to a CBRNE incident, and enhance public health capacity to provide mental health support. Mental health support issues to be addressed include self care for response staff and support for community members affected by the event. Training for the response staff will be developed and implemented for staff assisting in EPS.

Projected FFY2005 Allocation for Project J: $200,000
Costs associated with the improvements for regional response plans include: planning and assessment needs, training and exercise costs, and any administrative/contractual costs to establish said plans. Additional budget details will be forthcoming as per the requirements of the Biannual Strategy Implementation Plan.

PROJECT M: Procure equipment necessary to achieve homeland security goals and objectives (COMS G3; BUAS G2-01). (See FFY2005 ISIP Project “Regional Equipment Program”)

Regional Homeland Security CBRNE Vessel
The City of Boston will seek to purchase an all hazards fire vessel to provide increased security and response in the Port of Boston, serving as, but not limited to: an on scene command platform and dive platform; a supplemental water supply; a mobile triage center; and hazardous materials spill containment vessel. This vessel would serve in a regional capacity, and be available for response to any of the nine jurisdictions.

Currently, a proposal and budget outline has been provided to the Office of Homeland Security by the Boston Fire Department, complete with supporting reference materials and estimated timelines and payment schedules. Should the process of bidding begin in the near future, it is expected to take two to two-and-a-half years to complete construction.

Regional Equipment Procurement
OHS recognizes the needs of the Region’s partners to procure, enhance, streamline and standardize specific equipment that ensures effective preparedness capabilities of its personnel. One of the greatest challenges for the MBHSR is to ensure that all first responder agencies are not only properly trained for any CBRNE event, but has the
equipment to respond and protect them at the same time. Given the many agencies in the Region that are part of this endeavor, and who may be called upon in an incident, OHS is committed to providing them both the homeland security equipment they need, from personal protective equipment and medical supplies, to CBRNE response and decontamination equipment. OHS will continue to review the needs identified by its regional partners, and work to ensure standardization across our nine communities. We believe that in order to prevent, prepare, respond and recover from any major event regionally, all agencies should have a baseline of equipment that will provide them the capacity to work together.

Projected FFY2005 Allocation for Project M: $3,000,000
Costs associated with the regional equipment procurement and standardization will include: costs for supplies and equipment and training associated with said equipment. Additional budget details will be forthcoming as per the requirements of the Biannual Strategy Implementation Plan.

PROJECT N & O: Establish/enhance a regional capacity to support protracted response and recovery operations (COMS G5; BUAS G3-O1); Establish/enhance a continuity of operations plan for both public and private sector entities across the region (COMS G5; BUAS G3-O1). (See FFY2005 ISIP Project “Continuity of Operations Plans”)

Phased Response Plan
A working group directed by Boston EMS with representation from private EMS providers will work to develop a uniform Phased Response System for all CBRNE WMD mass-casualty incidents in the MBHSR, building upon existing Phased Response levels. The Phased Response System is a mass-casualty-incident management system that defines pre-determined responses depending on the circumstances of the incident. The Phase Response Plan working group will continue to establish the details surrounding what a regional Phase Response Plan should include. These details are as follows but not limited to:

- Enhancing and expanding upon written contingency plans and procedures for the EMS agencies in responding to a CBRNE event;
- Managing backlog of non-incident-related emergent EMS calls immediately following a CBRNE WMD incident as well as addressing non-emergent transport needs;
- Verification of decontamination;
- Warm-zone treatment and triage protocols (communicating with hospitals and HAZMAT on this);
- Tracking of patients from incident to tertiary care sites;
- Necessity and set-up of field medical stations;
- Verification of safety of cold-zone treatment areas;
• Replacing affected personnel;
• Changing shift schedules and staffing allocations
• Integration of Medical Reserve Corps and Community Emergency Response Team volunteer assets;
• Ensuring presence of necessary medical supplies through local stockpiling and utilization of federal assets through the strategic national stockpile and other resources such as Vendor Managed Inventory, Chem-Pak, and Event-Pak;
• Re-establishing supply chain and
• Personnel and supply cost recovery

Once completed, these contingency plans will be documented for accountability purposes and incorporated into all personnel and service contracts.

Patient Tracking and Management System
In a collaborative effort by the regional EMS, health care and public health partners, a regional patient tracking and management system is being proposed that would integrate the IT systems of EMS and hospital trauma centers, as well as provide a multi-disciplinary system for use in shelters or on-site treatment facilities in the event of a terrorist attack or natural disaster. Specifically, the tracking system would be useful in identifying unknown patients in the case of a major catastrophe. The system would also integrate existing systems of all the major hospitals in the MBHSR region, all of which are unique depending on the organization.

Projected FFY2005 Allocation for Project N&O: $250,000
Costs associated with the revision and implementation of the MBHSR continuity of operations plans, specifically related to the Phased Response Plan and Patient Tracking System, will include: contractual support for the development of the phased response plan and any administrative/contractual costs to establish a regional MOA (should one be deemed appropriate). Please Note: formal Continuity of Operations Plans are currently being supported with FFY2004 funds. Additional budget details will be forthcoming as per the requirements of the Biannual Strategy Implementation Plan.