

# Las Vegas Urban Area Working Group

CLARK COUNTY FIRE ADMINISTRATION  
575 E. FLAMINGO RD, 2ND FLOOR, MACC  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89119

## DRAFT MINUTES

Wednesday, November 13, 2024

11:00 AM

### **UAWG Members Present:**

Billy Samuels, Thomas Touchstone, Jennifer Wyatt, Ben Erickson, Diana Clarkson, Bradley Iverson, Misty Robinson.

### **UAWG Alternate Present:**

Gary Stevenson, Michele Thackston, Jeremy Hynds, Ana Chavez, Josh Barrone, Lewis Spencer, Jeff Quinn.

### **UAWG Members Absent:**

Carolyn Levering, Greg Chesser, Jayson Andrus, Warren Hull, Jim Owens, Bryan Ostaszewski.

#### **I. Call to Order**

- Billy Samuels, UAWG Chair call to order at 11:02 AM on Tuesday, November 13, 2024.

#### **II. Roll Call**

- Quorum present.

#### **III. Public Comments**

- No comments.

#### **IV. Comments from the Chair**

- Chair Billy Samuels, welcomed Chief Ben Erickson as the new EM for City of North Las Vegas, replacing Chief Anderson.

#### **V. Review and Approve 04-06-2024 meeting minutes.**

- Motion to approve by Chief Jennifer Wyatt, seconded by Spencer Lewis. No discussion, motion carried.

**VI. Review and Approve 08-20-2024 meeting minutes.**

- Bradley Iverson requested page 4; first paragraph name needs to be changed from Bradley Anderson to Bradley Iverson.
- Jeremy Hynds noted page 5, second bullet, middle of the paragraph needs to change from the fugitive center to fusion center.
- Motion to approve with the changes by Jennifer Wyatt, seconded by Jeremy Hynds. No discussion, motion carried.

**VII. Maintain, sustain and new project definitions, UASI definitions, regarding the next HSGP**

- The Chair stated how last year these definitions weren't a big deal since all the projects were new. But when the projects are submitted to the sum grants, the choices are maintained, sustain, enhance or new. He shared the definitions for maintain as the support or maintenance of something; sustain is keep a building, machine or road in good condition or in working order by checking or repairing regularly. Asked the group if we wanted to maintain, sustain projects or is it the same thing, encourage the group to participate and share their opinion.
- Diana Clarkson stated that both definitions are the same, but probably the sustain language is more appropriate.
- Jeremy Hynds agreed with Diana Clarkson's opinion.
- The Chair expressed how when the definition enhancement for a project is used those get above in ranking to get approved. Those are not in the same category as the new projects. Enhancement and Sustain definitions are very similar in priority. The Chair continued, how enhancement will probably give us more money because we are improving a project, shared the definition of enhancement as intensify, increase or further improve the quality, value or the extent of something.
- Jeremy Hynds asked if the State had any guidelines for the definitions.
- The Chair addressed Jeremy Hynds on his question and mentioned that he invited the State and asked them to attend the meeting, but it was too late, and no one was available to attend.
- The Chair asked Pamela Hatty about the choices when submitting the grants if it was maintained, sustained, enhancement or something similar to that wording.
- Pamela Hatty checked on an old grant and found that sustained is the purpose of the project to strictly maintain a working capability at the current level.
- The Chair asked if there was a choice for enhancement when submitting the grants application.

- Diana Clarkson stated that she believed there was a choice for enhancement, building up on the original, as part of the questions. She used LPR as an example on how this project has already some deployments, but if it needed to add capacity, that would count as enhancement.
- The Chair added how enhancement could also be a lower amount of money, and sustainment might mean the same dollar amount as the previous year.
- Diana Clarkson commented on how the projects should be based on capacity not necessarily dollar value because sustained could go up or down, we should have the freedom to ask for either more or less money if we need to. We wouldn't take money we don't need, but if there's inflation or if we add new users, which adding new users wouldn't be an enhancement but mostly a sustainment.
- The Chair used licensing for WebEOC as an example for sustainability. Since the same amount of money is required each year, unless something else is added then it could be enhancement.
- Jeremy Hynds mentioned how this concept goes back to capabilities measurements, used the fusion center as an example. If the fusion center is not able to fulfill their capability that they currently have with the 1 million dollars we funded it last year, but they need 1.1 million dollars this year, to maintain the same capability they always provided, that should be the language, based on their capability not the value of the money. If they will enhance their capability adding something new to their existing capabilities, that it's going to be the enhancement side, increase their capability to something new within their already existing capability. Money shouldn't be the case. It should be based on how they are able to keep doing what they have been doing but now they must do it with a price difference.
- Misty Robinson agreed with Jeremy Hynds and Diana Clarkson.
- Chief Jennifer Wyatt agreed with Jeremy. We need to be better in defining what the grant is, are we sustaining the goal of giving that money. If the project meets the goal or not. When we look at the projects, we should be better on defining what the goal is and not let money drive it. If you met the goal, then anything else is enhancement. She concluded; we need to work better in our verbiage.
- Jeremy Hynds stated that this goes back to the baseline stuff we are supposed to do from the Emergency Management perspective as a Fire Admin; SPR, any RESC documentation and that is our foundation document that identifies what we are doing well, what we are not doing well and what's that gap, the money goes to the gap. Agreed with Chief

Wyatt, we need to do a better job in identifying what are our metrics. What is success as far as capability is, for us and what we are missing to reach that success.

- Jennifer Wyatt intervened and added what are your goals and principles, what the desired outcome is, what does that look like. Did we meet it or not and now we need to add more to it to reach that goal? Or if we meet it and now, we are trying to enhance it by adding another goal, objective or outcome to it.
- The Chair concluded after hearing the group's opinion that we will keep the definitions as maintained, sustained and enhancement and will prepare a list of definitions and share it with the State.

**VIII. Public Comments**

- No comments.

**IX. Adjournment**

- Motion, by Chief Wyatt: **To adjourn the meeting.** Seconded by Diana Clarkson, no discussion, motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

**Next Scheduled UAWG meeting: February 12, 2025, at 11:00 A.M.** hybrid or in-person meeting, via Microsoft Teams or in-person at the Clark County MACC.