Homeland Security

ODP Information Bulletin
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TO: All State Administrative Agency Heads
           All State Administrative Agency Points of Contact

FROM: Matt A. Mayer
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SUBJECT: FY 2005 Transit Security Grant Program Regional Transit Security Strategy
           Development and Submission Technical Assistance

The Office of State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness (SLGCP) is
offering Technical Assistance to support Regional Transit Security Working Groups
(RTSWG) in the development of the Regional Transit Security Strategy (RTSS).
Submission of the RTSS by August 31, 2005 is required to comply with Transit Security
Grant Program (TSGP) application guidance.

REGIONAL TRANSIT SECURITY STRATEGY REQUIREMENTS

The regional allocation and reporting of TSGP funding is driven by the completion of a
Regional Transit Security Strategy. An RTSS must be developed by each Regional
Transit Security Working Group and should establish an overall vision of regional
transit preparedness. The RTSS will serve as the strategy for the region with specific
goals and objectives as they relate to prevention, detection, response, and recovery.

Per the FY05 TSGP Program Guidance, RTSWGs should leverage existing strategy
documents including the Transit System Risk Assessment and Security and Emergency
Preparedness Plans for participating transit agencies. The RTSS must specifically attend
to IED, as well as chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear prevention, detection
and response capabilities, and the actions necessary to address any gaps.

A template for the RTSS is attached to this Information Bulletin and is available electronically on the ODP Secure Portal at https://odp.esportals.com/.

TRANSIT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

To assist SAAs with establishment of the RTSWG and the subsequent development of the RTSS by August 31, 2005, SLGCP is offering several types of technical assistance (TA). Available TA includes: TSGP Orientation Workshop, RTSS Development TA, and Risk Assessment TA.

TSGP Orientation TA Workshop	**Description** The Orientation Workshop provides assistance in understanding and managing the FY 2005 TSGP. The workshop will address the requirements associated with developing and submitting the RTSS to SLGCP, by working on-site in that state to ensure the RTSWG has the tools necessary to develop a strategy that serves the needs of the RTSWG (SAA(s), UAWG representatives, eligible transit systems, Amtrak (Northeast Corridor and Chicago Hub), and other related transit systems in the region. Tasks included in this Workshop include but are not limited to: Organizing the RTSWG, Interpreting the requirements outlined in the FY 2005 TSGP guidance; Coordinating the RTSS with applicable state and urban area homeland security strategies; Understanding the RTSS approval process, and finally Understanding reporting requirements using the ODP Grant Reporting Tool. **Frequency** One delivery per eligible urban area region. **Target Audience** SAAs and members of the Regional Transit Security Working Group. This should include personnel responsible for developing and updating the projects to be funded through FY 2005 TSGP. The SAA may also want to include the financial services representative responsible for managing its grant resources.
TSGP RTSS Development TA	**Description** The RTSS Development Workshop provides assistance in the development and submission of the RTSS to ODP. As part of this workshop, facilitators will be able to assist RTSWGs with developing the required elements of the RTSS and completing and submitting the RTSS template to ODP. SLGCP will provide staff that will work on site in the state to initiate the RTSS development process.

Frequency One delivery per eligible urban area region.

Target Audience SAAs and members of the Regional Transit Security Working Group. This should include personnel responsible for developing and updating the projects to be funded through FY 2005 TSGP.

TSGP Risk Assessment TA

Description
The Risk Assessment is used to identify and prioritize mass transit agency needs, according to risk, security and response capability. The process involves three primary components, Risk Assessment, Response Capabilities Assessment and Needs Assessment.   SLGCP will provide staff who will work on site at the eligible transit agency to assist the agency in the prioritization of security countermeasures and emergency response capability needs based on "risk", and to develop a "roadmap" for future transit agency funding allocations for "terrorist risk" reduction.

Frequency One delivery per eligible agency.
Target Audience Transit Agencies participating in the Transit Security Grant Program are eligible for Risk Assessment TA and may schedule it through their SAA. SAAs will coordinate all TA requests through their SLGCP Preparedness Officer.

REQUESTING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The technical assistance outlined above is available on a first come, first serve basis and subject to the availability of funding. TA request forms are available in the SLGCP TA Catalog at http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/docs/ODP_TA_Catalog.pdf.

These forms should be submitted by the SAA to the appropriate PPD state preparedness officer for coordination.

Questions related to this grant program may be directed to tsgp@dhs.gov or to the SLGCP Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk at 1-800-368-6498.

Attachments:
RTSS Template
Proof of Concurrence
TSGP Orientation Fact Sheet
Transit Fact Sheet RTSS
TSGP FAQs