

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency

Vincent C. Gray
Mayor



Chris T. Geldart
Director

PRESS RELEASE

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The National Capital Region Will Receive Up to \$30 Million Through DHS Securing the Cities Program

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced the expansion of the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office's (DNDO) Securing the Cities program to the National Capital Region. The District of Columbia is happy to announce that, because of this expansion, the District's Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA) will receive and manage, as the State Administrative Agent for the National Capital Region, a grant of up to \$30 million over five years beginning with \$6 million in 2014.

The goal of the Securing the Cities program is to lessen the threat posed by dangerous radiological or nuclear materials against major metropolitan areas in the United States by establishing sustainable capability among state, local, and tribal agencies to detect and report dangerous radiological and nuclear materials within their jurisdictions. "The Securing the Cities funding will help the District of Columbia, as well as our friends and neighbors in the National Capital Region, further reduce risk along our area roadways, rail, and maritime pathways," said Mayor Gray.

The District and its National Capital Region partners recognize that radiological and nuclear threats exist and we strive to detect and report unauthorized attempts to import, possess, store, develop, or transport nuclear or radiological materials within the region. "By expanding the program into the National Capital Region, DHS has provided the District and our regional partners with funding to continue to build robust nuclear detection capabilities that will protect citizens, businesses, and visitors throughout the nation's capital. I am thankful that the Department of Homeland Security has elected to expand this vital program to our area," said HSEMA Director Chris Geldart. The Securing the Cities program will also provide equipment and conduct training and exercises to further the National Capital Region's nuclear detection capabilities and coordination with federal operations.

More information on the Securing the Cities program can be found at www.dhs.gov.

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The Mission of the District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency is to lead the planning and coordination of homeland security and emergency management efforts to ensure that the District of Columbia is prepared to prevent, protect against, respond to, mitigate, and recover from all threats and hazards.

