

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
FIRE DEPARTMENT
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Robert Ojeda, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: Establish the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as the City Standard for Incident Management

DATE: September 1, 2005

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This ordinance establishes the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as directed by the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, through Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) 5, in efforts to provide a consistent nationwide approach for Federal, State, local and tribal governments to work together more effectively and efficiently to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity.

Staff recommends approval.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In response to the events of September 11, 2001, the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks (9-11 Commission) recommended adoption of a standardized Incident Command System for use nationwide. This recommendation resulted in Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) 5 which directed the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to develop and administer a National Incident Management System (NIMS).

In order to receive FY 2006 preparedness funding, the City must certify that NIMS has been formally adopted and that all first responders and other critical employees have completed a NIMS awareness course. Employees from the Office of Emergency Management, Fire, EMS, Police, Park Police, Airport Police, Public Works, Metropolitan Health and the City Manager's Office will be receiving this training. Both self paced on-line and instructor lead training will occur throughout FY 2005 and FY 2006. Approximately 5,930 City employees will receive training in NIMS.

The purpose of this system is to facilitate the most efficient and effective incident management by utilizing standard terminology; standard organizational structures; interoperable communications equipment; consolidated action plans; unified command structures; uniform personnel qualification standards; uniform standards for planning, training and exercising; comprehensive resource management; and designated incident facilities during emergencies or disasters. The NIMS standardized procedures for managing personnel, communications, facilities, and resources will improve local government's ability to utilize federal funding to enhance local readiness, maintain first responder safety, and streamline incident management

processes. Additional NIMS training will be required by the NIMS Integration Center (NIC) as it is implemented as a national standard.

POLICY ANALYSIS

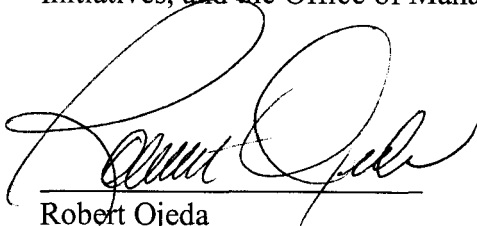
Approval of this ordinance is in keeping with the federal mandate to adopt a standardized Incident Command System and will allow the City to continue utilizing federal funding for emergency management.

FISCAL IMPACT

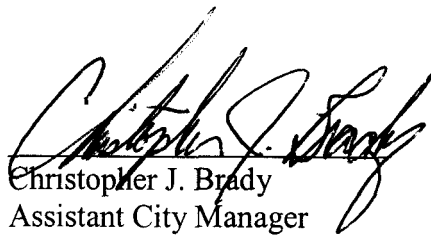
Training to familiarize City staff with the NIMS will be paid for by funds from the 2004 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant. The estimated cost of training is \$42,000.00, which will be used to cover overtime for EMS and Public Works. All other first responders and critical staff will be trained during normal business hours at no additional cost.

COORDINATION

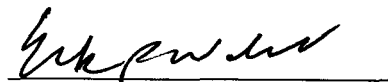
This item has been coordinated with the San Antonio Metropolitan Health Department, Police Department, Public Works Department, City Attorney's Office, Department of Community Initiatives, and the Office of Management and Budget.



Robert Ojeda
Fire Department



Christopher J. Brady
Assistant City Manager



J. Rolando Bono
City Manager

↓