Urban Shield Task Force  
Friday, March 10, 2017  
9:00 a.m.

Dr. Muntu Davis, Chair

Location: County Administration Building  
1221 Oak Street, Room 255, 2nd floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Summary Minutes

Call to Order/Roll Call

Dr. Muntu Davis, Chair, Urban Shield Task Force, called the meeting to order.

Introductions

Aisha Brown, Chief of Operations, Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson’s Office, District 5  
Dan Bellino, Alameda County Office Education, Chief of Staff to Superintendent Karen Monroe  
Marla Blagg, BART Police, Emergency Manager for BART District  
Dave Winnacker, Alameda County Fire Department, Representative for Fire Chiefs Association  
Travis Kusman, Director, Emergency Medical Services, Alameda County  
Rhonda Bailey, Clerk of the Board, Alameda County  
Jim Betts, Surgeon-in-Chief, Assistant Director, Trauma Services, Children’s Hospital Oakland  
Muntu Davis, Alameda County Health Officer, Chair, Urban Shield Task Force  
Mike Grant, Owner, Guns Unlimited Training Center  
Mike Dayton, Deputy Director, SF Department of Emergency Management  
Dave Ebarle, SF Department of Emergency Management  
Brett Keteles, Assistant Sheriff, Alameda County Sheriff’s Office  
Ann Kronenberg, Director, SF Department of Emergency Management; Chair, Bay Area UASI  
Paul Roller, Chief of Police, City of Alameda  
Bob McGinnis, Alameda County Chiefs of Police and Sheriff’s Association  
Kathleen Harris, Facilitator  
Omowale Satterwhite, Facilitator  
Carol Burton, Chief Executive Officer, Jeweld Legacy Group, consultant to Supervisor Keith Carson  
John Lindsay-Poland, American Friends Service Committee (on the phone)  
Lara Kiswani, Executive Director, Arab Resource and Organizing Center, Stop Urban Shield Coalition  
Tash Nguyen, Ella Baker Center, Advocate, Stop Urban Shield Coalition  
Glen Katon, Civil Rights attorney, Oakland  
Susan Abdallah, pediatric nurse, Kaiser Oakland

Welcome

Supervisor Keith Carson, District 5, welcomed the task force participants and presented introductory comments.

The Urban Shield Task Force was established to try to determine the fine line of preparation for an emergency and use of police powers beyond a direct emergency. The Board of Supervisors has tried to reflect a variation of interest groups and this could be an opportunity to have a real balanced approach.
The focus on Urban Shield has continuously grown and this process will allow the Board to look at emergency operations and if things can be done differently.

**Purpose/Role of Task Force and Meeting Schedule**

Carol F. Burton, CEO, Jeweld Legacy, presented a PowerPoint presentation to review the purpose of the task force.

The Board of Supervisors created the Urban Shield Task Force in response to growing support and opposition for the continuation of Urban Shield in Alameda County. The Task Force will assess Urban Shield and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. In addition the task force will:

Examine if the Urban Shield projects meet the Federal Guidelines set in the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) grant

Ensure Urban Shield is strictly an emergency preparedness program

Assess whether terms, conditions, guidelines of the program meet the demand for the Bay Area Region to respond to a natural disaster or terrorist attack.

**Meeting Schedule**

April 7, 2017 – 9:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m.
May 12, 2017– 9:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m.
June 9, 2017– 9:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m.
August 11, 2017– 9:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m.
August 25, 2017– 9:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m.

A final report will be delivered to the full Alameda County Board of Supervisors prior to the Board consideration of future funding for Urban Shield.

**Meeting Protocols**

Omwomole Satterwhite, meeting facilitator, reviewed the following meeting protocols with the Urban Shield Task Force:

1) Actively participate
2) Allow each voice to be heard
3) One speaker at a time
4) Respect differences
5) Critique ideas, not people
6) Be forward thinking
7) Seek common ground and understanding
8) Silence cell phones

Dr. Muntu Davis added that the task force should stay focused on the task at hand. This initial meeting was informational and there will be opportunity for public comment at future meetings. The Urban Shield Task Force will follow the Brown Act guidelines for public meetings.

**Bay Area Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) -Overview**

Anna Kronenberg, Executive Director, San Francisco City and County of Emergency Management, presented a PowerPoint presentation to give an overview on the Urban Area Security Initiative.
The Bay Area Urban Areas Security Initiative’s (UASI) mission is to strengthen regional capacity to prevent, protect against, respond to and recover from catastrophic events. The UASI uses Homeland Security grant funds to analyze regional risks, identify capability gaps, to build a secure, prepared and resilient region.

The Department of Homeland Security established high risk urban areas and determined federal funding allocations in 2003 in compliance with the Homeland Security Act of 2002. In 2006, major cities were consolidated into the Bay Area Urban Area and by 2011 the Bay Area UASI expanded to its current twelve county membership.

UASI Counties: Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Monterey, Napa, San Benito, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano and Sonoma. The Bay Area UASI has received approximately $295 million since 2006; last year the Bay Area UASI received approximately $23 million.

The Bay Area UASI focus areas include:
- Community resiliency and recovery
- Cybersecurity
- Emergency medical and public health preparedness
- Catastrophic planning
- Chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosives
- Interoperable communications
- Public Information and warning
- Training and exercise

Anne Kronenberg answered questions from task force members regarding the Bay Area UASI.

**Learning Questions and Data Needs**

Omowale Satterwhite, meeting facilitator, requested the task force members to review questions regarding Urban Shield to encourage discussion.

Questions
1. Does the Urban Shield project meet the Federal Guidelines set out in the UASI grant?
2. Is Urban Shield strictly an emergency preparedness program?
3. Does Urban Shield guidelines meet the demand for the Bay Area Region to prepare for a natural disaster or terrorist attack?
4. Can responders (public safety, public health, emergency response department) be adequately trained without training offered by Urban Shield?
5. Does Urban Shield have an impact on the community’s relationship with law enforcement?

After group discussions the following feedback was given in response to the questions regarding Urban Shield:
- Community relationship does not apply
- Bringing various jurisdictions together in Urban Shield is a critical element
- Maybe misperceptions of the purpose of Urban Shield
- First three (3) questions are not central to the task force
- Community preparedness is large part of Urban Shield; communities should be prepared for a disaster of any kind, not just law enforcement and emergency responders
• UASI is for prevention, recovery and resiliency; to what extent is urban shield preparing in these areas
• Understand how the region prepared itself before Urban Shield existed
• Jurisdictions not with Urban Shield (SWAT) compare their training and how SWAT is used
• To what extent do US participants involved in any kind of abuses
• What is the definition of community; gain clarity
• Ask the community what impact in US has on the community (community participants)
• More knowledge about who is a part of US (encouraged participants of US)
• Expand the question of the “community’s relationship with law enforcement to include; fire, public health, emergency management services, school districts and transit operators
• Task force would need a list of all participants in Urban Shield; information on stories from the community of human rights abuses and SWAT raids;
• Schedule of activities on what actually happens at Urban Shield
• Attendees and vendors, RFP process and guidelines and what the “ask” is in the RFP;
• Basic understanding of the risk assessment
• Demands and needs
• Impact of Urban Shield, the concerns about potential abuses from law enforcement; have not heard from questioning abuses from public health and fire; focus is on SWAT and the militarization of police;
• Adequate training without Urban Shield; need to work with all the jurisdictions to respond more effectively; relationships between public health, law enforcement, fire and EMS helps the response to a disaster; it is a tremendous benefit; law enforcement will expand community involvement
• Because Urban Shield has been tied to a response to terrorist attacks it creates a fear in the community; what are we doing to prepare the community for a natural disaster
• The vast majority of law enforcement do not have SWAT officers on a full time basis; if the concern is about SWAT in individual communities, focus on that; What is the impact if we are not prepared or do not adequately respond; if we fail or have a dismal response
• What is the relationship between SWAT actions and human rights abuses
• Understand and acknowledge differences of perception; give some space to have the community heard; be clear what we see as the perceptions of the community
• Specialized teams don’t exist because of Urban Shield, if Urban Shield did not exist there would still be tactical teams on a smaller scale;
• Urban Shield is particularly impactful in some communities; what are the alternatives outside of Urban Shield
• In Monterrey County Urban Shield teaches the community response teams and there will be more community involvement in the coming year; keep community involvement at a greater participation
• Since 911, it was evident that the country was not prepared, Urban Shield has been a benefit; without the training exercises it would be difficult to put into real life situations
• The issue with Urban Shield is not the collaboration of preparing for disasters; the Task Force needs to get to the crux of the issue people have with Urban Shield

Omowale Satterwhite gave a brief summary of the responses to the Learning & Data Questions.

There was a basic consensus that the first three (3) questions could be answered concerning the federal guidelines, emergency preparedness and meeting the demand to prepare for natural disasters or terrorist attacks. Information on risk assessment is needed including what are the risks and what are the gaps.
For the remaining questions, Task Force members want to learn the benefits of Urban Shield and some clarity of law enforcement and other agencies’ involvement in Urban Shield. There was agreement on training and preparation in real time. Information on the breakdown of the Urban Shield budget, activities and, vendors will be necessary to respond to questions and concerns. Clarity around addressing community concerns about Urban Shield will also be a focus of the task force.

The next meeting the Sheriff’s Office and Stop Urban Shield will make presentations. For meetings three (3) and four (4) the task force will focus on strategy development, key issues, and brainstorming. In meetings five (5) and six (6) the task force will form and finalize recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.

Meeting Feedback

Several Task Force members expressed the meeting was a good start to begin to look at Urban Shield and its activities.

Materials for the task force will be posted on the ACGOV website. For any questions in between meetings should be sent to Carol Burton carol.burton@acgov.org.

Public Comment
None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned to Friday, April 7, 2017.