



# International Association of Emergency Managers - USA Council

## Government Affairs Update



**May 14, 2024**

**Subject: Monthly Updates and the FY24/FY25 Budget**

The IAEM-USA Government Affairs Committee sends a monthly update that typically provides a high-level overview of work promoting policy and funding positions of the emergency management profession with our federal and legislative partners. This month, we provide insight into the FY24 and FY25 budget cycles.

Over the past few decades, Congress has repeatedly resorted to continuing resolutions to keep the government up and running when the House and Senate fail to complete work on the annual spending bills that fund all government operations. The use of continuing resolutions has become so commonplace that we barely even take much notice when September 30 (the end of the fiscal year) comes and goes. But, the FY24 appropriations cycle was an extreme example of this process. On March 22, almost six months after the FY25 appropriations cycle started, Congress finally reached an agreement on two packages of FY24 funding bills to avoid a government shutdown. The federal government is now funded through September 30, 2024.

Under the final agreement, the Department of Homeland Security—which funds FEMA and a wide variety of other government agencies including CISA, TSA, the Coast Guard, the Secret Service, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)—took a significant hit from FY23 funding levels. The bill included a total of \$61.8 billion in total discretionary appropriations for DHS which is \$500 million less than the amount enacted the previous year.

With so many high-profile agencies competing for a smaller pot of money coupled with the endless need for additional border patrol resources for ICE and CBP to manage the migrant surge, FEMA received an appropriation of \$25.3 billion...**a cut of \$73 million below the FY23 enacted level** and \$268 million below the President's budget request.

Perhaps the most troubling aspect of the cut to FEMA's budget is a 9% across-the-board reduction for all homeland security and emergency management grants totaling \$67 million below the request. You can see more specific numbers on the attached chart.

While each program on the chart represents unique constituencies, partnerships, and capabilities, they also represent decades of post-September 11 efforts. Countless reports, testimonies, and anecdotes highlight these programs' direct return on investment. The cuts made in the FY24 spending agreement for DHS present a direct danger to the American people, an inability to sustain response and recovery capabilities across the country, and put critical

## IAEM-USA Government Affairs Update – May 2024

infrastructure at risk.

Additionally, the FEMA Disaster Response Fund (DRF) is likely to be expended before the end of June, just as we enter hurricane season. When we asked our appropriations contacts about adding additional funding, they indicated that the Majority has very little interest in supporting any refill of the DRF.

The Government Affairs Committee is in the process of creating, and will soon launch, a grassroots campaign to press Congress to restore and grow the funding available to meet the ever-growing demands on the emergency management enterprise. As Congress considers supplemental funding this summer and the FY25 budget, IAEM and NEMA will be aggressive in our advocacy to restore these cuts and the trust established over decades of work between federal, state, local, territorial, and tribal stakeholders.

As we look ahead to find opportunities to backfill the 9% across-the-board cut to all grants that were part of the FY24 appropriation, we may have several options. However, please remember that this is not a linear process, so we will have to take advantage of opportunities if and when they present themselves. We think our first push is to ask DHS to make grants a priority if/when they re-program FY24 funding. In addition, we will ask DHS, FEMA, and OMB to consider including grant money in their DRF supplemental request if/when they opt to do that. After that, we will push Congress to at least restore grant funding to FY23 levels as they work on the FY25 appropriations cycle.

More to come... it will be a busy summer!

### **Mary Jo Flynn-Nevins, MS, CEM**

International Association of Emergency Managers  
Chair, Government Affairs Committee  
[GovAffairs@iaem.com](mailto:GovAffairs@iaem.com)

### **Thad Huguley**

International Association of Emergency Managers  
Director, Government Affairs  
[thad@iaem.com](mailto:thad@iaem.com)

## IAEM-USA Government Affairs Update – May 2024

<b>FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY</b>			
<i>(in millions)</i>	<b>FY23 Enacted</b>	<b>FY24 Request</b>	<b>FY24 Enacted</b>
<b>Operations &amp; Support</b>	<b>1,380</b>	<b>1,519</b>	<b>1,484</b>
<b>Procurement, Construction, and Improvements</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Federal Assistance</b>	<b>3,882</b>	<b>3,564</b>	<b>3,497</b>
State Homeland Security Grant Program	520	601	468
<i>Operation Stonegarden</i>	<i>(90)</i>	<i>(90)</i>	<i>(81)</i>
<i>Tribal Homeland Security Grants</i>	<i>(15)</i>	<i>(15)</i>	<i>(14)</i>
Urban Area Security Initiative	615	711	554
Non-Profit Security Grant Program	305	360	275
Public Transportation Security Assistance	105	100	95
Port Security	100	100	90
Assistance to Firefighters (SAFER/AFG)	720	740	648
Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG)	355	355	320
RiskMAP	313	350	281
Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grants	12	12	11
Emergency Food & Shelter	130	130	117
Next Generation Warning System	56	0	40
Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending <sup>^</sup>	331 <sup>^</sup>	0	294 <sup>^</sup>
Alternatives to Detention Case Management (by transfer)	(20)	(15)	(15)
Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention (by transfer)	(20)	(20)	(18)
Shelter and Service Program (by transfer)	(800)	(0)	(650)
Training & Exercises	316	316	306
<i>Center for Domestic Preparedness</i>	<i>(71)</i>	<i>(72)</i>	<i>(71)</i>
<i>Center for Homeland Defense and Security</i>	<i>(18)</i>	<i>(18)</i>	<i>(16)</i>
<i>Emergency Management Institute</i>	<i>(31)</i>	<i>(33)</i>	<i>(32)</i>
<i>U.S. Fire Academy</i>	<i>(58)</i>	<i>(60)</i>	<i>(60)</i>
<i>National Domestic Preparedness Consortium</i>	<i>(101)</i>	<i>(101)</i>	<i>(91)</i>
<i>Continuing Training</i>	<i>(16)</i>	<i>(12)</i>	<i>(14)</i>
<i>National Exercise Program</i>	<i>(21)</i>	<i>(21)</i>	<i>(21)</i>
<b>Disaster Relief Fund (DRF)</b>	<b>19,945</b>	<b>20,406</b>	<b>20,261</b>
Base Disaster Relief	0*	(145)	0*
Disaster Cap Adjustment	19,945	(20,261)	(20,261)
Rescission of Prior Year Funds	(0)	(0)	(0)

\* Utilizes carryover balances from previous year