



-Memorandum-

Finance Department

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Date: February 20, 2024

To: Seguin City Council
Steve Parker, City Manager

From: Kathy I. Wood, Grants Administrator

Subject: Submittal of State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program
Assessment and Evaluation Projects, FY2025

The Office of the Governor, Public Safety Office, Homeland Security Grants Division is soliciting grant applications for the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program – Assessment and Evaluation Projects. This is one of four cybersecurity grant programs currently open for applications. We will be applying for two of the four grant categories.

The Information Technology (IT) department will be applying for funding to upgrade cybersecurity. The City of Seguin has been utilizing the Palo Alto Cortex XDR basic licensing for approximately 3 years for endpoint security citywide with great success. Currently the city does not possess a robust repository of network logs for cyber awareness and preemptive mitigation. Seguin would like to upgrade Cortex XDR to enhance its AI driven cyber protection for city networks and cloud resources. If approved, Cortex Pro will allow the city to begin stitching together and consuming network logs through the powerful Palo Alto Data Lake for advanced analysis of network traffic and risk mitigation.

The grant request is for no more than \$100,000 and the grant, if awarded, requires a 10% match.

The grant application requires an approved resolution from the City Council that contains the following:

1. Authorization for the submission of the application to the Public Safety Office (PSO) that clearly defines the name of the project for which funding is requested;

2. A commitment to provide all applicable matching funds;
3. A designation of the name and/or title of the Authorized Official who is given the authority to apply for, accept, reject, alter or terminate a grant; and
4. A written assurance that, in the event of loss or misuse of grant funds, the governing body will return all funds to the Public Service Office.

Staff requests approval of the resolution to submit with the grant application.