



-Memorandum-

Finance Department

P. O. Box 591, Seguin, Texas 78156-0591
Phone (830) 401-2450 Fax (830) 401-2499

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
Mitigation 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 – Mitigation Projects. This is one of four cybersecurity grant programs currently open for applications.

The Information Technology (IT) department will be applying for funding to provide for advance data offsite back-up through Cohesity. IT has a robust program that has many facets of optimized security practices. One area that is a known deficiency made evident through the Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency's (DHS CISA) Ransomware Readiness Assessment (RRA) and Cybersecurity Performance Goals (CPG) reports is data backups. Cohesity's data backup as a service provides global visibility for management of proprietary data allowing the City to have expedited offsite backup recovery accessibility to protect from the onslaught of ransomware strains targeting public organizations today. By moving data backups to Cohesity, the city's data will be replicated both on and off site in the event of a cyber or weather-related incident.

The city is also requesting funding to upgrade its system architecture to Nutanix's hybrid cloud solution. The Nutanix systems architecture aids in improving enterprise security posture and preventing data breaches by supporting a multilayered defense in depth approach. This is achieved through platform security via NIST certified FIPS 140-2 data-at-rest encryption and comprehensive access controls at the foundational level. Nutanix further enhances application and network security to combat cyber threats such as ransomware through native network micro-segmentation functionality and visibility. Nutanix's Security Central helps validate compliance and regulatory guidelines to include PCI-DSS, HIPAA, and NIST, all of which can be directly tied to the City of Seguin today.

The total for both cybersecurity enhancements are estimated to be no more than \$200,000 and 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.