



COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER BROOKE PINTO
THE JOHN A. WILSON BUILDING
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W., SUITE 106
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

April 29, 2026

Clint Osborn, Director
Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency
2720 Martin Luther King Jr Avenue SE,
Washington, DC 20032

Via Email

Dear Director Osborn,

Please find enclosed budget oversight questions from the Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety. **Please provide responses to these questions no later than close of business on Monday, May 4, 2026.** If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Isaiah Boyd, Legislative Counsel, at iboyd@dccouncil.gov, or Eloy LaBrada, Deputy Committee Director, at erodriguezlabrada@dccouncil.gov.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "BE Pinto".

Brooke Pinto
Councilmember, Ward 2
Chairwoman, Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety
Council of the District of Columbia

cc: Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs
Council Budget Office
Office of the Chief Financial Officer

I. Operating Budget

General

1. Please provide a crosswalk of all FTEs that were reclassified to a different activity in the FY27 proposed budget.

HSEMA reclassified 1.0 FTE to a different activity in the proposed FY27 budget. See below.

Position No.	FY 26 Activity (Program)	FY 27 Activity (Program)
00011442	800005-INTELLIGENCE ANALYSIS	800007-OPERATIONS SUPPORT

2. Please provide the position numbers for all positions eliminated in the proposed agency budget for FY27.
 - a. Were all eliminated positions vacant? If not, which eliminated positions were filled?
 - b. Are these positions eliminated effective October 1, 2026, or were funds swept in the FY26 supplemental budget?

HSEMA will eliminate 7 FTEs in the proposed FY27 budget, of which 5.0 FTEs belong to HSEMA, and 2 FTEs belong to OUC as part of an inter-agency agreement. The 7 FTEs to be eliminated on October 1, 2026 are vacant.

Agency	Position No.
HSEMA	00026092
HSEMA	00048766
HSEMA	00075241
HSEMA	00092023
HSEMA	00097265
OUC	00101836
OUC	00102869

3. Please provide the title, salary, fund source, Activity/Division, and hiring plan for all new FTEs proposed in the proposed FY27 budget for the agency.

HSEMA will not establish new FTEs in the proposed FY27 budget.

4. Please identify any areas of significant underspending in FY25 and FY26 to date, broken down by fund source, division/program, and activity, and explain the reason for the underspending, including whether it was driven by vacancies, delayed hiring, delayed procurements, delayed grant reimbursements (including FEMA or other federal funds), lower-than-expected emergency response activity, reduced contractual spending, or other operational factors.

HSEMA does not have any areas of significant underspending in FY25 and FY26 to date.

5. *Please provide the FY26 approved and year-to-date and the FY27 proposed funding for professional development, training, certification, and conferences, broken down by fund source, division/program, and activity.*
 - a. *Please explain whether current funding levels are sufficient to meet required training, certification, and preparedness standards for agency staff.*

Please refer to attachments Q5A and Q5B. Current funding levels are sufficient to meet required training, certification, and preparedness standards for agency staff.

6. *Please provide a hiring plan for the following vacant positions:*
 - a. *00004653, Program Analyst*
 - b. *00023961, Program Manager*
 - c. *00075237, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Officer*
 - d. *00075237, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Officer*
 - e. *00077400, Emergency Planning Specialist*
 - f. *00077771, Program Analyst*
 - g. *00077771, Program Analyst*
 - h. *00077970, Supervisory Intelligence Analyst*
 - i. *00077972, Emergency Operations & Info Spec*
 - j. *00077972, Emergency Operations & Info Spec*
 - k. *00085179, Fusion Intelligence Analyst*
 - l. *00086315, Program Analyst*
 - m. *00097268, Program Analyst*
 - n. *00097268, Program Analyst*
 - o. *00102869, Training Specialist*

HSEMA's hiring plan for the aforementioned vacant positions are as follows:

- a. HSEMA will initiate recruitment in the 3rd quarter.
- b. HSEMA will initiate recruitment in the 4th quarter.
- c. HSEMA will initiate recruitment in the 4th quarter.
- d. This is a duplicate.
- e. HSEMA will initiate recruitment in the 4th quarter.
- f. HSEMA will initiate recruitment in the 3rd quarter.
- g. This is a duplicate.
- h. HSEMA is working on the vacancy announcement and anticipates posting by end of May.
- i. Candidate selected and extended an offer.
- j. This is a duplicate.
- k. HSEMA will initiate recruitment in the 3rd quarter.
- l. HSEMA will initiate recruitment in the 4th quarter.
- m. HSEMA will initiate recruitment in the 4th quarter.

- n. This is a duplicate.
- o. This position is assigned to OUC as part of the inter-agency agreement, and the employee who previously filled the position was moved off HSEMA's salary schedule, so it is now showing as vacant and will be eliminated in the proposed FY27 budget.

Agency Management Program

- 7. *Please provide context and likely impacts regarding proposed decrease in:*
 - a. *(AMP010) Grants Administration*
 - b. *(AMP011) Human Resource Services*
 - c. *(AMP012) Information Technology Services*
 - d. *(AMP019) Property, Asset, And Logistics Management*
 - e. *(AMP030) Executive Administration*

HSEMA manages several multi-year federal grant awards and every fiscal year, our federal budget allocations fluctuate based on adjustments to award totals, planned projects and subrecipient spending. Therefore, HSEMA's proposed FY 27 budget reduction is attributed to (1) approximately \$70,000,000 decrease to the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) estimated carry-over, and (2) approximately \$30,000,000 decrease to the COVID Public Assistance Grant estimated carry-over, which has no operating impact.

(AMP010) Grants Administration

The largest impact is the reduction in federal grants that HSEMA will pass through to local and regional partners as part of our grant administration authority. HSEMA is in the process of finalizing its project submissions for the FY 25 HSGP and we have not received our FY 26 HSGP award, therefore, we will be able to provide specifics regarding impacts to our local and regional partners at a later date.

(AMP011) Human Resource Services

(AMP012) Information Technology Services

(AMP019) Property, Asset, And Logistics Management

(AMP030) Executive Administration

HSEMA does not anticipate an impact from the proposed decreases to the aforementioned activities. HSEMA's federal budget allocations fluctuate based on planned project spending, therefore, this change is reflective of an anticipated decrease in project spending.

Public Safety

- 8. *Please provide context and likely impacts regarding proposed decrease in:*
 - a. *(P00103) Incident Command and Coordination*
 - b. *(P00104) Incident Coordination and Support*
 - c. *(P00105) Intelligence Analysis Intelligence Analysis Cyber*
 - d. *(P00107) Operations Support*
 - e. *(P00110) Special Events*

- f. (P00113) District Preparedness
- g. (P00116) Safety and Security

HSEMA manages several multi-year federal grant awards and every fiscal year, our federal budget allocations fluctuate based on adjustments to award totals, planned projects and subrecipient spending. Therefore, HSEMA's proposed FY 27 budget reduction is attributed to (1) approximately \$70,000,000 decrease to the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) estimated carry-over, and (2) approximately \$30,000,000 decrease to the COVID Public Assistance Grant estimated carry-over, which has no operating impact. HSEMA does not anticipate an impact from the proposed decreases to the aforementioned activities. HSEMA's federal budget allocations fluctuate based on planned project spending, therefore, this change is reflective of an anticipated decrease in project spending.

- 9. Please provide context and reasons regarding the proposed increase:
 - a. (P00111) State Wide Operability Coordination

The proposed increase is a result of 2 FTEs being added to this activity as part of the onetime local enhancement. These positions will be reallocated from HSGP funding to local funding in the proposed FY 27 budget so that HSEMA can maintain these positions.

Resilience and Emergency Preparedness

- 10. Please provide context and likely impacts regarding proposed decrease in:
 - a. (P00203) Local Planning
 - b. (P00204) Local Training
 - c. (P00209) Strategic Partnerships

HSEMA manages several multi-year federal grant awards and every fiscal year, our federal budget allocations fluctuate based on adjustments to award totals, planned projects and subrecipient spending. Therefore, HSEMA's proposed FY 27 budget reduction is attributed to (1) approximately \$70,000,000 decrease to the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) estimated carry-over, and (2) approximately \$30,000,000 decrease to the COVID Public Assistance Grant estimated carry-over, which has no operating impact. HSEMA does not anticipate an impact from the proposed decreases to the aforementioned activities. HSEMA's federal budget allocations fluctuate based on planned project spending, therefore, this change is reflective of an anticipated decrease in project spending.

- 11. Please provide context and reasons regarding the proposed increase:
 - a. (P00201) Community Outreach and Engagement

The proposed increase is a result of 3 FTEs being added to this activity as part of the onetime local enhancement. These positions will be reallocated from HSGP funding to local funding in the proposed FY 27 budget so that HSEMA can maintain these positions.

II. Budget Support Act

12. Subtitle III, Subtitle F, the Homeland Security Commission Dissolution Amendment Act of 2026 dissolves the Homeland Security Commission. Please provide context as to the function of the Homeland Security Commission as well as the anticipated impact on the dissolution of the commission.

The Homeland Security Commission (HSC) was created through the “Homeland Security, Risk Reduction, and Preparedness Amendment Act of 2006” to recommend improvements in security and preparedness in the District of Columbia. Specifically, the Commission gathers and evaluates information on the status of homeland security in the District, measuring progress and gaps in homeland security preparedness, recommending security improvement priorities in consultation with major public and private entities and advising the District of Columbia government on the homeland security program. The HSC shall develop an annual report to the Mayor and District of Columbia Council. The Commission shall consist of experts in security, transportation, communication, chemical safety, risk assessment, terrorism, or occupational safety and health.”

HSC was envisioned as a “think-tank” of local experts that could provide the District’s homeland security program, through HSEMA, with rigorous assessment of emerging homeland security topics. Over the course of thirteen 13 years since it was created, the HSC produced four reports on the following topics: “The State of Cybersecurity” (2013), “Preparedness Level in Addressing a Potential Pandemic Incident” (2015), “Safe Guarding Cyberspace in the Nation’s Capital” (2018), and “Emergency Mass Care Programs Across the Nation: Best Practices for the District” (2020). Since delivering the 2020 report, HSC has struggled to operate as an advisory body, primarily because of difficulty keeping the membership filled with qualified experts. It has not produced a report in five years and has not had a quorum to conduct business since 2023.

Since the creation of the HSC, the industries of homeland security and emergency management have evolved significantly due to the additions of post-secondary academic programs across the country and professional development opportunities through the federal government and private sector. Additionally, HSEMA has become more engaged in several national advisory organizations, including: Big Cities Emergency Managers, the National Emergency Management Association, the National Fusion Centers Association, the National Homeland Security Association, and the Governors Homeland Security Advisors. As a result of our commitment and participation in these organizations, the District has access to a broad array of expertise and experience that exceeds the benefit that it is receiving from HSC.

HSEMA sees a positive impact from the dissolution of HSC. By dissolving HSC, HSEMA no longer has to staff the HSC with a position which can be better applied to agency policy and priorities..

III. Reduction in Federal Funding

13. The agency’s operating budget reflects a significant reduction in funding from the Federal Grant Fund, specifically a net reduction of \$101,543,309 and 61.0 Full-Time

Equivalents (FTEs) across multiple divisions. The agency is similarly receiving a onetime budget enhancement to local funds of \$4,700,000 increase and 33.0 FTEs across multiple divisions to backfill critical functions previously funded by a U.S. Department of Homeland Security grant shifted to local funds. This decrease creates a troubling reduction in HSEMA's operational capacity.

- a. Please identify which programs, divisions, positions, and or services including grants that passed through HSEMA to local partners that are affected by the reduction in federal grant funding.
 - i. What specific grants were impacted or eliminated by the \$93,397,969 reduction in nonpersonnel services costs with projected grant awards from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security?**
- b. Please explain whether any emergency preparedness, planning, response, training, public outreach, or homeland security functions will be reduced, delayed, or discontinued as a result.*
- c. Please identify the remaining funding gap left after the onetime budget enhancement. What are the operational impacts of that gap on HSEMA's operational preparedness and response capacity.*

HSEMA's proposed FY 27 budget reflects a federal grant fund net reduction of \$101,382,098 and 60 FTEs across multiple programs. The net reduction is attributed to (1) approximately \$70,000,000 decrease to the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) estimated carry-over, and (2) approximately \$30,000,000 decrease to the COVID Public Assistance Grant estimated carry-over, which has no operating impact as we are nearing the close-out of this grant.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) imposed a 50% cut to HSEMA's FY 25 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP), specifically, the Urban Area Security Initiative, and HSEMA anticipates that this cut will increase by approximately 35%-40% when FEMA releases the FY 26 HSGP notice of funding opportunity; therefore, our FY 27 budget projections are reflective of this trend and we acknowledge that this can cause a troubling reduction in HSEMA's operational capacity. To add, HSEMA is in the process of finalizing its project submissions for the FY 25 HSGP and we have not received our FY 26 HSGP award, therefore, we will be able to provide specifics regarding impacts to our local partners at a later date.

To address this uncertain and fiscally unstable environment, HSEMA has worked strategically to establish a stop gap solution in FY 27 using the onetime \$4.7M local budget enhancement with the support from OBPM, and \$6.3M in projected HSGP carry-over funds to absorb approximately 95% of the remaining gap left. The impact to HSEMA is a loss of 5 FTEs which represents a 3% reduction to our current staffing levels, and we anticipate a small reduction in capacity to build, report on, and implement the District's resilience action plan and strategy.

We will meet our core operational initiatives and mayoral priorities in FY 27 with the current planned approach. However, we acknowledge it is a bridge to get us to FY 28. The

anticipated cuts to federal grant programs will require a larger local investment in the outyears to permanently stabilize our operating budget and mitigate future risks of reduced operational capacity.