



## THE U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

### SURVEY ON CITIES' DIRECT HOMELAND SECURITY COST INCREASES RELATED TO WAR/HIGH THREAT ALERT

March 27, 2003

#### Summary

Cities are America's frontlines in ensuring homeland security. When you call 9-1-1, the phone doesn't ring at the White House or the State House. Those emergency calls come into your city's police, fire and emergency medical personnel. Those hundreds of thousands of first responders – our domestic troops – work in and for our cities.

Ensuring homeland security is expensive in these tough times. After 9/11, cities nationwide massively increased homeland security and emergency preparedness efforts. They acted to protect residents and businesses first – without consideration of cost. But that cost was and is tremendous. In the 15 months after 9/11, the U.S. Conference of Mayors estimated cities spent more than \$2.6 billion on additional homeland security costs. That increased spending has continued and, in fact, increased in recent months with frequent national threat alerts and now the war in Iraq.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors is releasing new data compiled in a survey of nearly 150 cities nationwide. These cities are geographically and politically diverse. They range in size from 30,000 to eight million people. As a group, we find that they are spending over \$21.4 million per week in additional homeland security costs attributable to the war and the increased threat alert level (code orange). When we extrapolate these data, **we estimate that cities nationwide are spending nearly \$70 million per week in additional homeland security costs due to the war and heightened threat alert level. If the war and/or threat alert level continue for six months, cities would incur nearly \$2 billion in additional costs.**

We stress that **these costs come ON TOP OF existing homeland security spending** already underway or planned since 9/11. In addition, this survey only asked cities about **DIRECT** costs, new money that had to be allocated for homeland security because of the war or threat alert. **These figures do NOT account for the huge INDIRECT costs cities are experiencing.** When a police officer normally assigned to anti-gang work is reassigned to guard a public building, that's an indirect but very real cost for a city.

In addition, it is important to note that our survey does **NOT account for the extensive equipment and training needs of cities** to ensure that first responders are ready to prevent and respond to acts of terrorism. This survey only speaks to the immediate costs of local public safety personnel responding to the war and increased alert status.

Additional homeland security costs impact cities across the country, large and small. The weak economy has already severely pinched city budgets, making homeland security costs even more difficult to fund. Cities cannot bear these costs alone. They need an effective and cooperative partnership with Washington on homeland security – and that means financial assistance.

Since 9/11, most cities have received no direct federal assistance for homeland security whatsoever. Mayors were pleased that the President, recognizing our need, initially proposed \$3.5 billion for first responders. He did that in January, 2002. More than one year later, the Congress failed to enact that funding request – and they were criticized by the President for it.

President Bush has now proposed a \$74.7 billion supplemental to pay for the war, which includes an additional \$1.4 billion for local governments, both cities and counties. We have thanked President Bush for this request, but are concerned that this funding is simply insufficient to meet the needs of America's first responders and America's cities. And the proposal Congress will take up would continue to funnel almost all of this assistance through state bureaucracies instead of sending the needed aid directly to where the first responders are – in our cities. For example, the Administration's proposal would provide local governments with \$150 million in overtime assistance through the states. Based on our survey, cities are spending this amount in increased costs in just over two weeks.

Cities, mayors, and first responders need and deserve better. We seek flexible, direct homeland security assistance from Washington. We needed it 18 months ago, but we hope Congress can give it to us now.



**Additional City Homeland Security Spending  
Due to War/High Alert**

**Survey by the U.S. Conference of Mayors  
March 27, 2003**

<i>City</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Cost/Week (Est.)</i>	<i>Population</i>
New York City	NY	\$5,000,000	8,008,278
San Francisco	CA	\$2,600,000	776,733
Los Angeles	CA	\$2,500,000	3,694,820
Atlanta	GA	\$2,250,000	416,474
Fresno	CA	\$1,500,000	427,652
Portland	OR	\$750,000	529,121
Austin	TX	\$500,000	656,562
Baltimore	MD	\$300,000	651,154
Chandler	AZ	\$336,000	176,581
New Orleans	LA	\$304,000	484,674
Pittsburgh	PA	\$280,000	334,563
Seattle	WA	\$225,000	563,374
Lexington	KY	\$218,000	260,512
Riverside	CA	\$216,000	255,166
Frederick	MD	\$206,958	52,767
San Jose	CA	\$200,000	894,943
Denver	CO	\$192,000	554,636
Norfolk	VA	\$175,000	234,403
Sierra Vista	AZ	\$175,000	37,775
Columbus	GA	\$171,900	186,291
Simi Valley	CA	\$161,000	111,351
Columbus	OH	\$160,000	711,470
Tuscaloosa	AL	\$160,000	77,906
Phoenix	AZ	\$154,615	1,321,045
Houston	TX	\$154,370	1,953,631
Miami	FL	\$130,000	362,470
Pawtucket	RI	\$119,000	72,958
Orlando	FL	\$112,000	185,951

Fremont	CA	\$103,500	203,413
Kansas City	MO	\$100,000	441,545
Lakewood	CA	\$99,200	137,893
Everett	MA	\$80,000	38,037
Laredo	TX	\$79,250	176,576
Pomona	CA	\$78,760	149,473
Dallas	TX	\$74,000	1,188,580
Eugene	OR	\$70,000	137,893
Mt. Vernon	NY	\$63,000	68,381
Topeka	KS	\$60,000	122,377
El Paso	TX	\$57,000	563,662
Hempstead	NY	\$55,000	56,554
San Juan	PR	\$52,000	434,374
Guaynabo	PR	\$50,000	100,053
Akron	OH	\$45,000	217,074
Dearborn Heights	MI	\$41,000	58,264
Indianapolis	IN	\$40,000	791,926
Nashville	TN	\$37,289	569,891
Bloomington	IN	\$36,400	69,291
Baldwin Park	CA	\$35,000	75,837
Boston	MA	\$30,000	589,141
St. Joseph	MO	\$30,000	73,990
Pleasanton	CA	\$30,000	63,654
Alexandria	VA	\$27,520	128,283
Ft. Worth	TX	\$26,288	534,694
Gainesville	FL	\$26,000	95,500
Santa Barbara	CA	\$25,951	92,325
West Valley City	UT	\$25,000	108,896
Dearborn	MI	\$25,000	97,775
Euclid	OH	\$25,000	52,717
Greenwood	IN	\$25,000	36,037
North Chicago	IL	\$25,000	35,918
Pembroke Pines	FL	\$24,000	137,427
Wilmington	DE	\$22,000	72,664
Pontiac	MI	\$21,792	66,337
Kirkland	WA	\$20,200	45,054
Overland Park	KS	\$20,000	149,080
Sioux Falls	SD	\$20,000	123,975
Stamford	CT	\$20,000	117,083
Glibert	AZ	\$20,000	109,697
Beaverton	OR	\$20,000	76,129
Wayne	NJ	\$20,000	54,069

Yauco	PR	\$20,000	46,384
Harrisburg	PA	\$18,500	48,950
Tallahassee	FL	\$18,000	150,624
Quincy	MA	\$17,000	88,025
San Antonio	TX	\$15,000	1,144,646
Hialeah	FL	\$15,000	226,419
Irvine	CA	\$15,000	143,072
Colton	CA	\$14,000	47,662
Bloomington	MN	\$12,000	85,172
Rome	NY	\$11,108	34,950
Savannah	GA	\$10,750	131,510
Knoxville	TN	\$10,500	173,890
Torrance	CA	\$10,425	137,946
Allentown	PA	\$10,000	106,632
Folsom	CA	\$10,000	51,884
Columbus	IN	\$10,000	39,059
Streamwood	IL	\$10,000	36,407
Claremont	CA	\$10,000	33,998
Temple City	CA	\$10,000	33,377
Shaker Heights	OH	\$10,000	29,405
Roanoke	VA	\$9,827	94,911
Cidra	PR	\$9,632	42,753
Tacoma	WA	\$8,600	193,556
Taylor	MI	\$8,000	65,868
Worcester	MA	\$7,960	172,648
LaVerne	CA	\$7,500	31,638
Escondido	CA	\$7,000	133,559
Meridian	MS	\$7,000	39,968
Yakima	WA	\$6,000	71,845
Orange	NJ	\$6,000	32,868
Freeport	NY	\$5,680	43,783
Cherry Hill	NJ	\$5,089	69,965
Novi	MI	\$5,000	47,386
Chattanooga	TN	\$4,340	155,554
Monterey Park	CA	\$4,000	60,051
West Haven	CT	\$4,000	52,360
Florence	SC	\$4,000	30,248
Southfield	MI	\$3,500	78,296
Suffolk	VA	\$3,400	63,677
Palatine	IL	\$3,000	65,479
Petaluma	CA	\$3,000	54,548
Stockton	CA	\$2,500	243,771

Fargo	ND	\$2,500	90,599
Delray Beach	FL	\$2,500	60,020
Florissant	MO	\$2,500	50,500
Romeoville	IL	\$2,500	21,153
Waukesha	WI	\$2,400	64,825
Ventura	CA	\$2,000	102,300
Billings	MT	\$1,500	89,847
Raytown	MO	\$1,260	30,388
Clifton	NJ	\$1,025	78,672
Dothan	AL	\$1,000	57,737
Culver City	CA	\$1,000	38,816
Campbell	CA	\$1,000	38,138
DeSoto	TX	\$1,000	37,676
Morgan Hill	CA	\$1,000	33,556
North Lauderdale	FL	\$1,000	32,264
Los Gatos	CA	\$1,000	28,592
Woonsocket	RI	\$350	43,224
Hanover Park	IL	\$350	38,278
Louisville*	KY	\$0	530,000
Winston-Salem	NC	\$0	185,776
Rockford	IL	\$0	150,115
Ft. Collins	CO	\$0	118,652
Manchester	NH	\$0	107,006
Green Bay	WI	\$0	102,313
Livonia	MI	\$0	100,545
Richardson	TX	\$0	91,802
Vista	CA	\$0	89,857
Roseville	CA	\$0	79,921
North Charleston	SC	\$0	79,641
Largo	FL	\$0	69,371
Brooklyn Park	MN	\$0	67,388
Sugar Land	TX	\$0	63,328
Hemet	CA	\$0	58,812
Pinellas Park	FL	\$0	45,658
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$21,444,189</b>	<b>39,436,314</b>
		<i>per week</i>	

*\* Due to the recent city/county merger, exact Louisville figures were unavailable. However, both city and county have reported increased indirect costs for reemployment of officers. This data was not included in overall calculations.*

### *Notes on Methodology*

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*total population of nation's 1185 cities  
with over 30,000 residents =  
127,866,731*

*times per person average cost  
from survey cities =  
**\$69,529,782**  
total weekly spending by cities nationwide*

*times 26 weeks in 6 months =  
**\$1,807,774,328***

**\*\* These figures include only DIRECT costs.  
Cities may also experience significant INDIRECT  
homeland security costs.**