

Bay Area News in Brief  
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### **Federal funding rises for transit and port security**

The Bay Area will receive twice as much federal security funding for port and public transit facilities as it did last year in what officials called a positive step away from early funding inequities that favored areas with no terror targets.

Under the Transit Security Grant Program, the Bay Area's funding increased 104 percent to \$28.2 million of the \$388.6 million nationwide program, which increased \$117 million over the previous year. Last year, DHS allocated \$13.8 million to the Bay Area.

The Bay Area will also get \$25.5 million from the Port Security Grant Program for fiscal year 2008, or 82 percent more than the \$14 million the region got in fiscal year 2007. Nationally, DHS will award \$390 million in port security grants, \$76 million more than the previous year.

BART is using more than \$5 million of that money to install security cameras throughout its system, and board member Bob Franklin said he believes area transit systems will likely be buying a lot more cameras and improved systems with the increased funding.

At the Port of Oakland, officials' security priorities also include the integration of video surveillance and intrusion detection systems, creating a port monitoring and coordination center and further improvements to the way people and cargo entering the port are screened, said spokeswoman Marilyn Sandifur.