

Agenda Report

December 4, 2017

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

THROUGH: Public Safety Committee

FROM: Department of Information Technology

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CITY OF GLENDALE TO SHARE INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS OF A COMBINED RADIO SYSTEM

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the following proposed action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 (b) (3); and
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of Glendale to share infrastructure and operations of a combined radio system. Neither competitive bidding nor competitive selection are required pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(H), and Pasadena Municipal code section 4.08.049(A)(3), contracts with other governmental entities.

BACKGROUND:

On December 8, 2008, City Council authorized the purchase of a radio system to replace the City's aging radio communications infrastructure to enable reliable mission-critical radio services for both public safety and public services, including the Police, Fire, Water and Power, Public Works, Transportation, Public Health and Planning Departments.

The new radio system went into operation on November 1, 2011 and became part of the Interagency Communications Interoperability (ICI) System. ICI is a shared system which provides interoperability capability with participating cities, including Beverly Hills, Burbank, Culver City, Glendale, Montebello, Pomona, Santa Monica, members of the East San Gabriel Valley Communications Joint Powers Authority (Azusa, Covina, Glendora, Irwindale, La Verne, and West Covina) and various other agencies who

participate as subscribers on the system including Alhambra Fire, Arcadia Fire, Bob Hope Airport, Cal-Poly Pomona Police, El Monte Police Narcotics Enforcement, Glendale Community College, Monrovia Fire, Monterey Park Fire, San Fernando Police, San Gabriel Fire, San Marino Police and Fire, Sierra Madre Police and Fire, and South Pasadena Police and Fire.

Concurrently in 2008, the City joined the Joint Powers Authority (JPA) for the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System (LARICS) along with many cities in Southern California with the intent to build a regional radio system led by Los Angeles County that would provide county-wide public safety radio services. Fifteen radio channels were loaned by Los Angeles County to the City for use in the Pasadena radio system until LARICS could be constructed and both the radio channels and the Pasadena radio system would be absorbed into that system some years later. These radio channels were necessary to increase the capacity of the Pasadena Radio system to meet radio communication needs of the City and interoperability expectations with other ICI member cities. ICI system members were also expecting to migrate to the LARICS system once the system was operational.

Unfortunately, after many years of implementation set-backs and funding challenges, nearly all ICI member cities left LARICS to pursue upgrades of their independent radio systems. LARICS continues to make progress, however its focus is on meeting communication needs of County agencies and is still years away from having an operable county-wide system.

Pasadena has remained a member of both LARICS and ICI and is supportive of regional interoperability to meet the critical communication requirements of all public safety and municipal services. However, the City must maintain the Pasadena radio system within the ICI system for the foreseeable future as our closest partners, the cities of Burbank, Glendale and the Verdugo Fire Communications for Fire Department dispatch services, are part of the ICI system. The system already provides regional interoperability and has proven to be an invaluable and critical service.

Within the next couple years, the County will need the fifteen radio channels loaned to the City returned for use in the LARICS system. In anticipation of this, staff began to pursue a variety of options to replace the channels to maintain communications capacity, service reliability and affiliation with the ICI system. Sharing radio channels with the City of Glendale is the best option to preserve the Pasadena radio system. The two cities share a large physical border, have nearly identical radio system components and configurations, and both are maintained and supported by Motorola Solutions, Inc. Furthermore, both cities are founding members of the ICI system and are aligned with many public safety functions that rely upon the same radio infrastructure. A shared radio system will also increase capacity in both systems and create geographic redundancies in the event that either radio system suffers a service outage.

Configuring the two city systems to share radio channels will require additional equipment and configuration by Motorola Solutions, Inc., the sole source vendor that

maintains and supports both radio systems. In October 2017, Glendale was awarded a \$2.2 million UASI (Urban Areas Security Initiative) Department of Homeland Security grant to cover the entire cost to reconfigure the two systems to share radio channels.

Other than staff time to participate during the reconfiguration work, there are no other capital expenditures anticipated from the City. On an annual basis, the Motorola, Solutions, Inc. maintenance and support agreement for the radio system is expected to increase between \$60,000 and \$80,000 to cover the cost of new equipment that will be purchased through the grant. The current annual maintenance and support cost under Motorola contract, 30386, is approximately \$194,000. Staff will return to Council to authorize a new maintenance and support contract with Motorola Solutions, Inc. with the additional annual cost in the next fiscal year.

Prior to the start of this project, staff recommends City Council authorize the City Manager to execute a Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with the City of Glendale that establishes the governance structure and framework to combine the independently owned radio systems so they are maintained, managed, and operated collaboratively by both cities. In addition, both cities will maintain independent ownership of their radio assets contributed to the combined radio system. Radio support personnel from both cities will collaborate and share in activities that support the effective operations of the combined radio system, but will provide service and support to their respective City users and be supervised independently. Both cities will also maintain their separate membership in the ICI System. The structure of the MOU will also allow both cities to exit the agreement and return to their prior configurations if desired.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

The coordination of operations to support a regional public safety communications network supports the City Council strategic goal to ensure public safety by enhancing first responder operations and regional interoperable communications.


ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The action proposed herein is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 (b)(3). The activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. The proposed MOU would allow for sharing of radio channels and operations of a combined radio system, which would not have a significant effect on the environment.

FISCAL IMPACT:

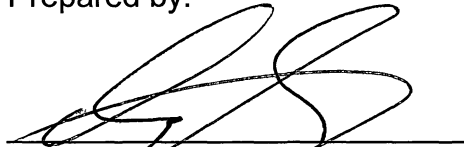
There is no immediate fiscal impact anticipated as a result of this action. However, annual ongoing costs for maintenance and support of the new equipment received as part of the grant are expected to rise between \$60,000 and \$80,000. This additional cost will be included in the DoIT operating budget beginning in the next fiscal year.

Respectfully submitted,



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