



Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

DATE: August 3, 2009

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: Approval of Amended and Restated Verdugo Fire Communication System Agreement between the Cities of Burbank, Glendale and Pasadena

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council authorize the City Manager to execute the "Amended and Restated Verdugo Fire Communication System Agreement between the Cities of Burbank, Glendale and Pasadena". This agreement is not subject to competitive bidding because it is a contract with other governmental entities (Charter Section 1002 H).

BACKGROUND

The Verdugo Fire Communications Center ("Verdugo") was established on August 1, 1979 by the cities of Burbank, Glendale and Pasadena to provide fire and EMS dispatch services for the three cities. The 1979 agreement was amended in March 1984 and again in September 1992. Per the 1992 agreement, the center is staffed by Glendale City employees, Glendale provides administrative support services for Verdugo, and the operation is located at a Glendale Fire facility. The cities of Burbank, Glendale and Pasadena are "member" agencies and contribute to the governance and annual operational funding of Verdugo. Additionally, Verdugo contracts with nine other agencies, (Alhambra, Arcadia, Monrovia, Montebello, Monterey Park, San Gabriel, San Marino, Sierra Madre and South Pasadena) to provide dispatching services for a set fee, the revenue from which supplements Verdugo's operational costs. During calendar year 2008, Verdugo dispatched apparatus to 63,776 incidents.

In November 2008, an operational analysis of the Verdugo Fire Communications Center was conducted by Tech/Knowledge, Inc. Management Consultants to evaluate Verdugo's governance, finances, staffing, operations, and technology as well as to introduce a comparative analysis to other dispatch centers. This analysis enabled all three cities to re-evaluate Verdugo's operations in their entirety and identify areas of concern and potential change. Since this time, the cities of Burbank, Glendale and Pasadena have been meeting on an on-going basis to discuss and implement the recommendations that have been mutually agreed upon in the areas of governance, financial management, capital expenditure plans, technology and operations. The approval of the "Amended and Restated Verdugo Fire Communications System Agreement between the cities of Burbank, Glendale and Pasadena" is the last step in implementing the recommendations stemming from the operational analysis.

