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**City of Fort Lauderdale**

**Information Technology Services Department**

DATE: August 28, 2013

TO: Lee R. Feldman, City Manager

FROM: Mike Maier, ITS Director/Chief Technology Officer

SUBJECT: Staff report for final participation agreements in the Consolidated Regional Emergency-911 Communications System

Provided herein is a staff report for the City's proposed participation in the Consolidated Regional E-911 Communications System which requires the City Commission's approval of a Regional Interlocal Agreement; a Participation Agreement; and an Assignment, Delegation, and Release Agreement.

After considerable discussion and review of issues related to the agreements, the staff committee, consisting of representatives from the office of the City Attorney and departments of Fire-Rescue, Police, and Information Technology Services, offers the following summary of outstanding issues; notwithstanding these issues, the City is committed to a successful partnership with the County in providing neighbors with a continuing outstanding level of E-911 service.

The Regional Interlocal Agreement (RILA) provides for the technical aspects of the County's E-911 cooperative system and is also an exhibit to the Participation Agreement. The Participation Agreement is the Standard Agreement with the County for participation in the County's E-911 cooperative system. The Assignment, Delegation and Release Agreement (Assignment Agreement) releases the County and Sheriff regarding their performance under prior agreements, specifically the distribution of E911 proceeds due to the City in the past and in the future.

At this time, the agreements are missing some content pages and exhibits. Unknown information could present challenges including technical issues transitioning to the cooperative system and additional costs that may occur with the change to regionalization, e.g., as of this date, the County still hasn't chosen an operator for the communications system; however, they will be responsible for reimbursing the City for its cost of operation. Staff will continue to work directly with the County on those issues pursuant to the execution of the agreements.

There are several other legal concerns that remain outstanding from the City's participation in the Consolidated Regional E-911 Communications System. The City has had limited input in the creation of the agreement(s) as most of the language has been in place with status quo participants and predates Fort Lauderdale's joining the regionalized system. Contained within whereas clauses of this agreement, the language provides that the County does not have the legal obligation to financially support police, fire and emergency medical service dispatch within municipalities and the County is voluntarily agreeing to provide these services subject to available funding. The City has taken the opposite position to this statement, and has filed the appropriate proceedings, in accordance with the Florida Statutes, Chapter 164, Conflict Resolution Procedure Resolution and Process.

The Participation agreement also provides for participating communities to remain responsible for pension obligations, sick and annual leave payouts and other employee obligations incurred prior to the hire date of Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Employees by the Operator of the new system. It is not clear how many employees will remain in the City's pension system.

The agreement also provides for a release clause that releases the County from all claims made by the City regarding E-911 communications issues prior to the commencement date of the agreement(s). This would be a waiver of the City's right to continue with the Chapter 164 process and bringing a lawsuit against the County based upon the City's previously alleged causes of action against the County. This would also leave the City exposed to litigation by the Sheriff and the inability to bring the County into this litigation as a third party.

The City has been advised that the County would like to upgrade to a Project 25 Phase II system in the 2018-2020 time frame. According to the Regional Inter-Local Agreement, the City is responsible for all costs associated with replacing City radios. There will be a significant impact to the City since none of the radios the City currently has will operate on a Project 25 Phase II system. New Project 25 Phase II radios are estimated to be \$6,000 each. We would require 1,250 radios for a total estimated outlay of \$7,500,000 for the equipment; installation and programming will be additional costs. Correspondingly, this expenditure would also be required for the City's own migration to a Project 25 Phase II system.

The Regional Inter-Local Agreement makes reference to emergency vehicles and closest unit response. The County has refused to clarify the definition of emergency vehicle, thus leaving the interpretation of the agreement to mean that Fort Lauderdale Fire-Rescue units could be dispatched to other jurisdictions (and other agencies could be dispatched to Fort Lauderdale) in response to various calls for service.

The radio infrastructure for public safety that includes the tower and the equipment, as stated in Section 5.03(A) of the Charter of Broward County, [*"The County Commission with cooperation from Municipalities shall establish a countywide communications infrastructure for fire and emergency medical services. The County shall provide funding for the communications infrastructure and all service providers will utilize the elements of the communications infrastructure. The communications infrastructure shall facilitate closest unit response for life-threatening emergencies and support for regional specialty teams."*] is supposed to be maintained by the County, but is not clearly stated in the agreement(s).

The City will remain responsible for teletype (entries, deletions, updates, and validations as required by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE). According to the agreement(s), the County will only provide a teletype channel for initial queries. Member cities will have to provide another means for officers to confirm the existence of warrants, etc. and may require further budget consideration in order for an officer to switch to a radio channel that is not monitored by a police dispatcher.

The current police radio template requires Fort Lauderdale to share three designated radio dispatch channels with other jurisdictions. Smaller, less busy agencies are being provided (in some cases) two radio channels that are not shared with other jurisdictions. Population of assigned radio channels needs to be done on a more equitable basis and will continue to be a discussion point with the County.

Non-emergency calls received by the regional 911 communications center will be transferred back to the City of Fort Lauderdale. A plan for handling these calls along with the associated costs are in development.

The City of Fort Lauderdale radio frequencies shall be surrendered to the Federal Communications Commission's once the radio system is turned off. However, it is still unclear if Broward County will need some of these licenses until a coverage analysis is jointly completed by both the County and the City. The coverage study will commence in October, 2013.

The five-year cost estimate of transitioning E-911 to the regionalized system are illustrated in Table A. First-year costs are estimated to total \$2,437,996. There will also be annual staffing and maintenance costs in subsequent years, the total of which is still undetermined.

Ft Lauderdale Regionalization Costs - Estimated as of 8/26/2012						
TABLE "A"						
Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) - Police	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	
Police - PMDC(425), CAD Readonly(60), UDT license(Copy of CAD data), UDT Interfaces	\$ 287,533.00	\$ 39,074.00	\$ 40,246.00	\$ 41,454.00	\$ 42,697.00	
UDT Server (hardware - Blade; OS, SQLServer)	\$ 66,280.00	\$ 56,280.00	\$ 56,280.00	\$ 29,128.00	\$ 29,128.00	
Total Police CAD Cost	\$ 353,813.00	\$ 95,354.00	\$ 96,526.00	\$ 70,582.00	\$ 71,825.00	
CAD - Fire Non-Frontline Vehicles	Year 1 (start-up)	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	
Fire Non-Frontline vehicles - PMDC (10), Firelook Pro Desktop, Laptops, Install	\$ 83,140.00	\$ 3,190.00	\$ 3,286.00	\$ 3,384.00	\$ 3,486.00	
Fire cost for City RMS						
Total Fire CAD and RMS Cost	\$ 83,140.00	\$ 3,190.00	\$ 3,286.00	\$ 3,384.00	\$ 3,486.00	
Non-Emergency Calls currently handled by Ft Lauderdale 911 call center	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	
Teletype staffing - Data entry/update/validations	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00	
Teletype computers	\$ 6,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,500.00	
Non-emergency call staffing						
Non-emergency call phone system, computers						
Total non-emergency call costs	\$ 306,500.00	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 305,500.00	
Police Records and Field Reporting - Funded by Law Enforcement Trust Fund (LETF)	Year 1 (start-up)	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	
Public Safety Software (OSS) RMS, Field reporting	\$ 1,046,585.00	\$ 142,628.80	\$ 146,907.66	\$ 151,314.89	\$ 155,854.34	
Magstripe and Barcode readers	\$ 179,840.00				\$ 179,840.00	
Mobile printers (citation/accidents)	\$ 319,680.00				\$ 319,680.00	
Conversion of RMS data	\$ 148,440.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
RMS Archive server (Use UDT Server Blade/SQLServer)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Total Police Records and Field Reporting Cost	\$ 1,694,545.00	\$ 142,628.80	\$ 146,907.66	\$ 151,314.89	\$ 655,374.34	
Total Police Cost (incl Teletype)	\$ 2,354,858.00	\$ 537,982.80	\$ 543,433.66	\$ 521,896.89	\$ 1,032,699.34	
Total Fire Cost	\$ 83,140.00	\$ 3,190.00	\$ 3,286.00	\$ 3,384.00	\$ 3,486.00	
Total Regionalization Cost	\$ 2,437,998.00	\$ 541,172.80	\$ 546,719.66	\$ 525,280.89	\$ 1,036,185.34	