

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 09/17/19

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 19-0159

LOG NAME: 04CITY OF DESOTO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AGREEMENT

SUBJECT

Authorize Execution of a Communications System Agreement with the City of Desoto for Participation in the City of Fort Worth's Public Safety Radio System for Interoperable Communications in Mutual Aid or Other Multi-Agency Operations at No Cost to the City of Fort Worth (ALL COUNCIL DISTRICTS)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council authorize the execution of a Communications System Agreement with the City of Desoto for participation in the City of Fort Worth's Public Safety Radio System for interoperable communications in situations involving mutual aid or other multi-agency operations.

DISCUSSION:

The implementation of the Fort Worth Public Safety Radio System included the development of a comprehensive interoperable communications plan for first responders from multiple agencies.

Participation in the plan is open not only to agencies that use the Fort Worth Regional Radio System as their primary communications system, but also to other mutual aid partners, such as the City of Desoto, who own and maintain their own radio systems for their daily operations but require the ability to communicate with other agencies in mutual aid situations or other multi-agency operations.

The plan provides a common group of communications channels that first responders in Tarrant, Johnson, Dallas, Denton, Parker and Ellis counties may access when multiple agencies respond to a single incident. These channels are used only for communications with other agencies during joint operations. They are not used for an agency's day-to-day operations. These channels are accessible to the users of any radio system connected to the Fort Worth Regional Radio System. More than 140 agencies are able to communicate with one another via these common channels.

In August 2019, the City of Desoto approved a Communications System Agreement with the City of Fort Worth to operate on the interoperable communications channels when required for mutual aid operations only.

The City of Desoto will not utilize the Fort Worth Regional Radio System for daily operations, but only when required to communicate with public safety agencies in Fort Worth or other agencies using the Fort Worth Regional Radio System during joint operations.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This contract will be with a governmental entity, state agency or public institution of higher education: Texas

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that this action will have no material effect on City funds.

Submitted for City Manager's Office by: Kevin Gunn 2015

Originating Business Unit Head: Roger Wright 2230

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