



Agenda Memorandum

Agenda Item – {{section.number}}.E.

City Council Meeting
August 28, 2023



Strategic Priority 1: Preparedness and Resilience

Build a system of intentional support for residents, businesses and the environment that mitigates risks and proactively seeks out ways to ensure the community not only endures, but thrives.



Strategic Priority 2: Proactive Public Safety

Enhance public safety to emphasize both prevention and enforcement, engage the community through education and outreach and provide the resources necessary to ensure safety and well-being throughout Westminster.

Subject: Ratification of Amended and Restated Intergovernmental Agreement for Computer Assisted Dispatch Exchange System

Prepared By: Derik Minard, Fire Chief

Recommended City Council Action:

Authorize the Mayor to sign the amended and restated Computer Assisted Dispatch Exchange System Agreement that is an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Thornton, the City and County of Broomfield, the Adams County Communication Center, and the City of Westminster.

Summary Statement:

- The North Area Fire Consortium is comprised of eight fire departments: Adams County Fire Protection District, Arvada Fire Protection District, Brighton Fire Protection District, Federal Heights Fire Department, North Metro Fire Protection District, South Adams County Fire Protection District, City of Thornton Fire Department, and the City of Westminster Fire Department. The Arvada Fire Protection District is not participating in the Computer Assisted Dispatch (CAD)-to-CAD Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA).
- The participating North Area Fire Consortium's 9-1-1 communications are managed by four Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) that consist of four dispatch centers operated by the City of Thornton, the City and County of Broomfield, the Adams County Communications Center, and the City of Westminster.
- Dispatch centers utilize a CAD system to track and dispatch emergency resources such as fire engines and medic units. CAD-to-CAD is a term that refers to a third-party system of hardware and software that connects different dispatch centers' CAD systems together to immediately

share resource availability across jurisdictions. A CAD-to-CAD system allows multiple jurisdictions to dispatch the closest appropriate Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) resources more efficiently to an emergency regardless of jurisdictional boundaries.

- The City of Westminster has benefitted from the use of the current CAD-to-CAD system. This system has greatly enhanced the efficiency of sharing resources and has reduced the time required to dispatch the closest appropriate Fire and/or EMS resources.
- The amended and restated IGA removes provisions that are no longer relevant and adds provisions, such as the requirement to share call response data with the governing board and parties to assist in calculating contributions and analyzing system performance and equity in resource sharing. The amended and restated IGA also includes a good faith commitment for parties to provide comparable personnel and equipment when responding to neighboring jurisdictions.
- Legal staff from all participating North Area Fire Consortium agencies have reviewed and approved the Amended and Restated CAD-to-CAD Exchange System IGA.

Fiscal Impact:

Not applicable.

Source of Funds:

Not applicable.

Policy Issue(s):

Should City Council approve the amended and restated IGA with the participating members of the North Area Fire Consortium to continue the CAD-to-CAD system?

Alternative(s):

City Council could decide not to approve the amended and restated IGA. Staff does not recommend this alternative, as the CAD-to-CAD system has enhanced the efficiency of the dispatching systems to better utilize North Area Fire and EMS resources.

Background Information:

In 2015, the North Area Fire Consortium began collaborating on a CAD-to-CAD information sharing solution. These discussions identified the need for an interoperable CAD information sharing solution. Interoperability is necessary because each PSAP utilizes different CAD products.

In March 2016, the North Area Fire Consortium approached the Urban Area Security Initiative and North Central Region (UASI/NCR) with a CAD-to-CAD solution grant proposal. The UASI/NCR liked the proposal but modified the grant request to include a feasibility study for the entire 10-county North Central Region.

In February 2017, UASI/NCR approved grant funding of \$1,210,000 to be used for the North Area Fire Consortium proposal with an agreement that the Consortium would contribute matching funds totaling \$500,000. The matching funds were allocated between the North Area Fire Consortium agencies on a pro rata basis determined by the total annual service calls for each dispatch center.

In November 2017, UASI/NCR authorized the North Area Fire Consortium to move forward in identifying a CAD-to-CAD vendor. After the issuance of the request for proposals, Emerging Digital Concepts (EDC) was selected as the CAD-to-CAD vendor.

In 2018, City Council approved the original CAD-to-CAD IGA.

In June of 2022, the Westminster Public Safety Communications Center went live with other agencies in the CAD-to-CAD system.

Since September of 2022, the dispatch centers of Westminster, Broomfield, Thornton, and Adams County have fully utilized the CAD-to-CAD system.

The amended and restated CAD-to-CAD IGA provides for the dispatch centers to continue moving forward with the process. It removes provisions that are no longer relevant and adds provisions, such as the requirement to share call response data with the governing board and parties to assist in calculating contributions and analyzing system performance and equity in resource sharing. The amended and restated IGA also includes a good faith commitment for parties to provide comparable personnel and equipment when responding to neighboring jurisdictions. There is no fiscal impact to any agency.

Ratifying this agreement supports the City's Strategic Priorities of Preparedness and Resilience and Proactive Public Safety by working with neighboring agencies to provide the fastest, most robust, and efficient service delivery to our citizens in times of emergency.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark A Freitag

Mark A. Freitag
City Manager

Attachments:

Attachment - Amended and Restated CAD-to-CAD Exchange System Agreement