

**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA TOPIC**

A resolution authorizing execution of the 2025-2028 Interagency Agreement between the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and the City of Bellevue for wildland fire or other emergencies.

Jerome Hagen, Fire Chief, 452-6895

Dave Tait, Deputy Chief, Bureau of Operations 452-2016

*Fire Department*

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY****ACTION**

This Resolution will authorize a new interagency agreement between the City of Bellevue and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources for wildfire and other emergency responses. The City has historically had this type of agreement in the past. This agreement is an updated version which successfully addresses the indemnity questions that have been a concern of past agreements.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Move to adopt Resolution No. 10505.

**BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS**

DNR is responsible for preventing and fighting wildfires on 13 million acres of private, state, and tribal-owned forestlands. They operate the state's largest on-call fire department, with more than 1,200 employees trained and available to be dispatched to fires as needed. During fire season, this includes more than 800 permanent DNR employees and about 400 seasonal employees hired for firefighting duties. Additionally, DNR also participates in Washington's coordinated interagency approach to firefighting and when needed calls upon fire departments across the state to provide additional fire-fighting resources.

This agreement also provides an opportunity for Bellevue Fire personnel to develop skills from events that rarely occur in our community. The agreement must be in place for Bellevue to provide assistance to DNR managed wildfires and other emergency responses.

**POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS****Policy Impact**

The execution of the proposed interagency agreement is consistent with the Fire Department's current policies and practices. No new policies are needed for this action.

**Fiscal Impact**

Adopting this Resolution will authorize reimbursement for costs associated with the provision of Fire Department employees and equipment for wildfire or emergency response. There are no matching fund requirements for this agreement. From the time of mobilization of the personnel and equipment until the personnel are demobilized by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the City

will be compensated for the response of personnel in accordance with the current employee pay schedules. Equipment rates are determined by the Washington State Fire Marshal's Office and are listed in the Interagency Wage and Equipment Rates for Washington State Fire Services.

## **OPTIONS**

1. Adopt the resolution authorizing execution of the 2025-2028 Interagency Agreement between the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and the City of Bellevue for wildland fire or other emergencies.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Proposed Resolution No. 10505

## **AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY**

Interagency Agreement between the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and the City of Bellevue