

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA TOPIC

Resolution authorizing execution of the Second Modification to the Independent Force Investigation Team – King County (IFIT-KC) Interlocal Cooperative Agreement adding Seattle Police Department as a member agency. The agreement executed shall be substantially in the form of the agreement in the Council Library.

Wendell Shirley, Chief of Police, 452-2031

Andrew Popochock, Assistant Chief of Police, 452-4347

Police Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**ACTION**

Resolution authorizing execution of the Second Modification to the Independent Force Investigation Team – King County (IFIT-KC) Interlocal Cooperative Agreement adding Seattle Police Department as a member agency.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 10570

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The Independent Force Investigation Team of King County (IFIT-KC) operates to provide independent investigation services in the event of an officer-involved use of deadly force in north King County that results in death or substantial physical injury. The current member agencies of the team are Bellevue Police Department, Washington State Patrol, King County Sheriff's Office, Duvall PD, Kirkland PD, Clyde Hill PD, Issaquah PD, Lake Forest Park PD, Medina PD, Mercer Island PD, Redmond PD, Snoqualmie/North Bend PD, and University of WA PD. South King County law enforcement agencies are part of the Valley Independent Force Investigation Team (VIIT). King County also falls within Region 3 of the newly established Washington State Office of Independent Investigations; once set up, this independent state agency will operate to investigate such officer-involved use of force cases statewide.

State law requires all uses of deadly force by a peace officer that results in death, substantial bodily harm, or great bodily harm be investigated completely independent of the agency that used the deadly force. Law enforcement agencies under a federal consent decree, federal settlement agreement, or federal court order are exempt from this legal requirement. Seattle Police Department (SPD) was under a federal consent decree when IFIT-KC was first established in 2021 and utilized its own investigative processes as part of its consent decree. In September 2025, the City of Seattle and its police department were released from its federal consent decree; it must now have its deadly uses of force investigated by an independent investigation team. Seattle now seeks to join IFIT-KC as a member agency so that IFIT-KC will be the independent investigative body to investigate SPD if it is involved in a use of deadly force that results in death or substantial physical injury. By adding the SPD as a member agency, IFIT-KC will gain additional investigative resources, investigators, and equipment from Seattle.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

Chapter 39.34 RCW and the Washington Mutual Peace Officers Powers Act, as codified in Chapter 10.93 RCW, authorizes the city to establish the terms and conditions pursuant to which the city will provide and receive mutual aid law enforcement services.

RCW 10.114.011 requires a completely independent investigation into the deadly use of force by a peace officer that results in death, great bodily harm, or substantial bodily harm to inform any determination of whether the use of deadly force met the good faith standard established in RCW 9A.16.040 and satisfied other applicable laws and policies.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with implementing these changes.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing execution of the Second Modification to the Independent Force Investigation Team – King County (IFIT-KC) Interlocal Cooperative Agreement adding Seattle Police Department as a member agency. The agreement executed shall be substantially in the form of the agreement in the Council Library.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS

Proposed Resolution No. 10570

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

Interlocal Cooperative Agreement for IFIT-KC
First Modification to the IFIT-KC Interlocal Cooperative Agreement
Proposed Second Modification to the IFIT-KC Interlocal Cooperative Agreement