

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA TOPIC

Resolution authorizing execution of an Interagency Connection Agreement between Bellevue and King County for the use of the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS).

Wendell Shirley, Chief of Police, 452-2031

Constance Slappey, Assistant Chief of Police, 452-4288

Bellevue Police Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**ACTION**

This Resolution authorizes execution of an Interagency Connection Agreement between Bellevue and King County for continued secure access to Electronic Fingerprint Capture Equipment provided by the Regional AFIS program to assist law enforcement in the identification process. AFIS enhances investigative capabilities and strengthens regional public safety efforts by improving the speed and accuracy of suspect identification.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 10545

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

King County's regional Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) program, under the administration of the King County Sheriff's Office, established an Interagency Connection Agreement (ICA) with each agency in the county that provides law enforcement and/or booking services. Currently, the program serves all 39 cities and unincorporated areas in King County. The ICA addresses use and maintenance of electronic fingerprint equipment provided to the agencies by the AFIS Program. The AFIS program is replacing its Livescan fingerprint kiosks in 2025-2026 with updated technology and requires a new Interagency Connection Agreement with participating agencies. The cost of the program is funded by a King County property tax levy; the most recent levy funds the AFIS program through the end of 2032.

Livescan is an electronic fingerprinting station that submits fingerprints and palm prints to the King County AFIS computer system. The prints are matched against known fingerprint records as well as "latent" prints collected at crime scenes. The system holds over 3 million finger and palm prints for comparison, and also stores over 67 thousand unsolved crime scene prints which are compared to all incoming records. Livescans have been in operation at jails and police departments in the county since the late 1990's to identify crime scene fingerprints, quickly identify individuals to prevent wrongful detention, and ensure correct identification of detained individuals. Beyond forensic investigation use, Bellevue also uses the technology to fingerprint applicants for concealed pistol licenses, and other administrative services provided by the Police Department.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

This agreement provides Bellevue Police Department with updated fingerprinting equipment allowing for continued participation in the AFIS program to provide enhanced forensic fingerprint and palmprint technology and services to aid in the administration of justice.

Fiscal Impact

The County has continued to provide effective AFIS services to public law enforcement agencies within King County, through a voter approved property tax levy, authorized by King County Ordinance No. 18674. King County Council recently passed Ordinance No. 19884 funding the continued operation of the AFIS program for an additional seven years starting in 2026.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing execution of an Interagency Connection Agreement between Bellevue and King County for the use of the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS).
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS

Proposed Resolution No. 10545

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

Interagency Connection Agreement