CITY COUNCIL AGENDA TOPIC

A Resolution authorizing execution of an interlocal agreement with the City of Kirkland and City of Redmond to implement the use of a shared homelessness outreach data system.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ACTION	This Resolution authorizes the execution of the City's joint participation in a shared homelessness outreach data system for the provision of outreach services to unhoused individuals in the community. The participating agencies are the City of Bellevue, City of Kirkland, and City of Redmond.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 10523.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The City's Homelessness Outreach Program provides community members living unhoused in Bellevue with a range of outreach services, including connection to programs, support in overcoming barriers to housing such as obtaining IDs, housing navigation, and encampment response. In 2024, the City's Outreach Team worked with more than 550 individuals experiencing homelessness, with 109 of these obtaining long-term shelter or housing.

Bellevue has a long history of close collaboration with colleagues in other Eastside cities on homelessness response. Homelessness is a complex challenge that is not limited to any one community and requires a regional or subregional approach to provide effective prevention and response services. Bellevue's outreach staff are in regular contact with counterparts in Redmond, Kirkland, and other local cities regarding clients, who often travel from one community to another nearby in order to access necessary services.

The City's Homelessness Outreach Team currently tracks client status, activities, and outcomes in a simple Excel database. In 2024, the City of Redmond's outreach team began using robust case management software called Bonterra Apricot, which allows for better data accuracy, tracking, and reporting. Staff from Redmond, Kirkland, and Bellevue have evaluated the software and identified significant benefits to establishing a shared outreach data system.

The attached Resolution will allow Bellevue to enter into a formal partnership with the Cities of Redmond and Kirkland to share a single Bonterra Apricot database. As a result, outreach staff across the three cities will be able to more effectively coordinate response efforts with potential shared clients. Cross-jurisdictional partnerships and collaboration benefit the clients we serve.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

Cities across the Eastside have been collaborating for years on homelessness response. This shared software builds on these practices for increasingly effective collaboration among homelessness outreach staff in three cities. It is consistent with the city's emphasis on high performance government, as well as use of data and technology to guide decisions, improve results, and enhance service delivery in an equitable manner. It specifically supports the following Comprehensive Plan Policy:

HS-23: In coordination with the region, support an intentional local community response to homelessness with housing, shelter and supportive services provided to all demographics.

Fiscal Impact

Funding for Bellevue's portion of the software subscription is included in the 2025-26 budget. Sharing the costs for this software among three cities reduces the cost for each city and supports the creation of a consistent, coordinated dataset. Redmond currently subscribes to the software; future costs will be equally split with each city paying 1/3 of the annual subscription fee. Upon execution of the ILA, Bellevue and Kirkland will contribute a prorated share of the software costs for the remaining months in 2025 and a full 1/3 of the 2026 subscription costs. Redmond's current subscription runs through April 2027; staff will consider potential future extensions to the software subscription based on system performance.

The total pricing is as follows:

	Total Annual Cost	Bellevue Share	Notes
2024-25	$16,267.90	$0	Redmond funded full subscription in 2024
2025-26	$17,081.30	$2,711.17	Pro-rated share assumes July 1 effective date
2026-27	$17,935.36	$5,978.45	1/3 of full year cost paid by each city

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing execution of an interlocal agreement with the City of Kirkland and City of Redmond to implement the use of a shared homelessness outreach data system.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS

A. Agreement for Services
Proposed Resolution No. 10523

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N/A