

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Resolution authorizing execution of the Eastside Public Safety Communications Agency (EPSCA) Second Amended and Restated Interlocal Agreement.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network (PSERN) is upgrading and replacing the countywide emergency public safety radio network overseen by four voting members who make up the PSERN Board. The EPSCA is to select one PSERN Board Representative and an Alternate. To facilitate this, it is necessary to update the current EPSCA Interlocal Agreement (ILA).

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 9890.

BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS

As discussed during the special presentation from PSERN staff at the City Council's October 26, 2020 meeting, the region is in the process of upgrading and replacing the countywide emergency public safety radio network. The City of Bellevue and its regional partners have now each approved the PSERN Operator ILA outlining the governance structure for PSERN.

Pursuant to the terms of the PSERN Operator ILA, PSERN is overseen by four voting members who make up the PSERN Board. The cities that make up the EPSCA are to jointly select one PSERN Board Representative and an Alternate. To facilitate this process, it is necessary to update the current EPSCA ILA in order to establish how the EPSCA representative to the PSERN Board and Alternate will be selected and serve the collective interests of the EPSCA cities.

In 2015, King County voters approved an additional nine-year regular property tax levy increase beginning in 2016. Proceeds from the tax levy are being used to support the replacement of the King County Emergency Radio Communications System (KCERCS). Like its predecessor, PSERN will serve nearly 200 separate police, fire, emergency medical and other governmental agencies in the county, including in Bellevue.

EPSCA was created by an ILA in 1992 and consists of the cities of Bellevue, Issaquah, Kirkland, Mercer Island and Redmond. The purpose of the 1992 ILA was to provide for the joint operation of the EPSCA emergency communications system that later became part of KCERCS. EPSCA representation within KCERCS is governed by a First Amended and Restated Eastside Public Safety Communications ILA, which was executed in 2013.

PSERN, as the intended successor to KCERCS, was created in 2015 through a memorandum of agreement (MOA) and an initial ILA providing for the initial implementation of the new PSERN system (Implementation ILA). PSERN consists of 12 parties, including Bellevue. In addition to King County and the City of Seattle, PSERN is made up of (1) the five member cities of EPSCA; namely, Bellevue, Issaquah, Kirkland, Mercer Island and Redmond; and (2) the five member cities of ValleyCom; namely, Auburn, Federal Way, Kent, Renton and Tukwila.

There are many benefits to the new PSERN system, full system acceptance of which is anticipated by the end of 2022. The new system includes advanced digital technology and improved capacity, capability and connectivity as part of a new 20-plus-year contract with the vendor, Motorola. PSERN will be a single billing agency with uniform rates, operational standards and system performance requirements. The system will improve coverage throughout the county to accommodate population growth in the previously less densely populated portions of the county, including along I-90 and Highways 2 and 410. PSERN will include updates, upgrade and repairs to both system and dispatch consoles and the purchase of more than 17,000 new end use radios and infrastructure support 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

Pursuant to the Implementation ILA, PSERN has been governed by a Joint Board, with one voting representative each from King County, the City of Seattle, EPSCA and ValleyCom. The Joint Board will continue under the Operator ILA. (Kirkland City Manager Kurt Triplett currently serves as the EPSCA representative on the PSERN Joint Board.)

The EPSCA Board has recommended approval of the attached Second Amended and Restated EPSCA ILA by the legislative bodies of its five members cities for execution by their mayors and/or city managers. Action at tonight's meeting will help make it possible for the EPSCA Board to identify its PSERN Joint Board representative for purposes of the PSERN Operator before February 16, 2021, as requested by PSERN staff.

While it will eventually be dissolved as a separate nonprofit organization at least one year after full system acceptance of the PSERN system, EPSCA will continue to exist primarily for purposes of designating its PSERN Joint Board member.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

There are no policy impacts associated with this agreement.

Fiscal Impact

There are no fiscal impacts associated with this agreement.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing execution of the Eastside Public Safety Communications Agency (EPSCA) Second Amended and Restated Interlocal Agreement.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

Proposed Resolution No. 9890

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

Eastside Public Safety Communications Agency (EPSCA) Second Amended and Restated EPSCA Interlocal Agreement (Redline Version showing proposed changes)

Eastside Public Safety Communications Agency (EPSCA) Second Amended and Restated EPSCA Interlocal Agreement

PSERN Operator Interlocal Agreement.