

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA TOPIC

Resolution authorizing the execution of the Eastside Public Safety Communications Agency Joint Board Interlocal Agreement.

Trisna Tanus, City Attorney
Chad Barnes, Supervising Attorney
City Attorney's Office

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**ACTION**

This Resolution would authorize execution of the Eastside Public Safety Communication Agency (EPSCA) Joint Board Interlocal Agreement (ILA); dissolving EPSCA as an agency and establishing a joint board in its place for purposes of selecting a representative to the Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network Board.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 10639

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

In 1992, EPSCA was established with the purpose of maximizing the availability and effectiveness of public safety radio communication. In 2013, the members of EPSCA entered an Amended and Restated Eastside Public Safety Communications Agency ILA, which established EPSCA as a governmental agency formed as a nonprofit corporation under Chapters 39.24 and 24.06 RCW. EPSCA included the cities of Issaquah, Bellevue, Mercer Island, Kirkland, and Redmond.

In 2015, King County voters approved funding for the Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network System (PSERN). In 2020, the EPSCA cities, together with King County and the cities of Auburn, Federal Way, Kent, Renton, Seattle and Tukwila (collectively, the "PSERN member agencies" entered the "Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network Operator Interlocal Cooperation Agreement" ("PSERN Operator ILA"). The PSERN Operator ILA created a separate governmental agency (the "PSERN Agency"), under authority of Chapters 39.34 and 24.06 RCW, to assume ownership and control of the PSERN system following the construction and full acceptance of such system. In 2023, the EPSCA radio communications system was formally replaced by the PSERN system.

This EPSCA Joint Board ILA is necessary for two reasons. First, this ILA addresses how appointment of one member (and an alternate) to represent the EPSCA cities on the PSERN Agency executive board ("PSERN Board"), as provided under the PSERN Operator ILA, is to occur. Second, the EPSCA Joint Board ILA provides for the members of EPSCA to maintain a contractual relationship outlining their process for jointly selecting a member to serve on the PSERN Board and for keeping EPSCA members informed and involved in PSERN activities.

The draft EPSCA Joint Board ILA (Attachment A) includes an agreement to dissolve the existing EPSCA agency and instead, for EPSCA to be reestablished as a joint board. This joint board will be comprised of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of each EPSCA city, who may designate an alternate.

For Bellevue, the CEO is defined be the City Manager, or their designee. Additionally, the ILA provides for the joint board to work together to select the ESPCA representative to the PSERN Board. The ESPCA representative will participate on the PSERN Board as set forth in the PSERN Operator ILA and keep the remaining ESPCA members informed about PSERN activities.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

Pursuant to RCW 39.34.030(2) interlocal agreements between public agencies must be authorized by the governing body of each party to the agreement.

Fiscal Impact

EPSCA Joint Board members may be asked to contribute up to Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) per year to cover administrative expenses. Sufficient funds exist in the 2025-2026 City Attorney's Budget to complete this action. Future funding to support will be addressed through the future budget processes.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing the execution of the Eastside Public Safety Communications Agency Joint Board Interlocal Agreement.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. EPSCA Joint Board ILA Draft
Proposed Resolution No. 10639

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

N/A