

~DISCUSS, CONSIDER, AND/OR APPROVE AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BAY CITY, TEXAS MATAGORDA COUNTY, TEXAS, MATAGORDA COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, MATAGORDA COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT, AND BAY CITY INDEPENDMENT SCHOOL DISTRICT REGARDING USE OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM (INFRASTRUCTURE) OWNED BY THE CITY OF BAY CITY



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT – COMMUNICATION SYSTEM (RADIOS)

BACKGROUND:

On September 25, 2007, Harris County and the City entered into an agreement (Amended in 2021). This agreement provides the City’s access to Harris County’s communications system—and allows communication among various public safety agencies. The City owns the infrastructure that connects the radio system to the users. (Tower, Fiber)

Because Harris County bills the City directly, historically the City has billed the users of the system annually. Costs are allocated based on radio count as shown on Exhibit B in the interlocal attached.

This proposed Interlocal puts the “old handshake agreement” on paper. There are 3 main parts of the billing: infrastructure costs (including maintenance and repair), fiber line costs (AT & T bills this to City directly) and system maintenance costs (Harris County Bill). There is a 4th cost listed as miscellaneous because the master agreement with Harris County has some ambiguous costs that it could bill out, but that has never happened. See (2.D-2.G in the proposed interlocal)

The County is billed directly by Harris County for maintenance costs; however this agreement addresses radio administration duties, infrastructure repairs, access to the tower site, and reimbursement of costs outside of Harris County's bill to the City.

What's different than practice: All entities under this agreement are proposed to share in infrastructure costs/repairs—not just City and County.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Harris County bills the City annually. Other users of the system reimburse the City based on an allocation (radios). The most recent Harris County annual bill was \$33,014 excluding Matagorda County. The City pays approximately 56% or \$18,353 of the maintenance agreement. Other entities such as EMS, Matagorda Hospital and BCISD contribute the rest.

Fiber Costs are approximately \$13,300 with costs shared by all entities based on # of radios on the system. The City's net impact is approximately \$3,200 (24%) after reimbursed.

IMPACT ON COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY: This enables all law enforcement agencies to communicate through the same system and share in infrastructure cost.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends City Council approve the Interlocal Agreement.

ATTACHMENTS: Interlocal Agreement