



Folsom City Council Staff Report

MEETING DATE:	7/8/2025
AGENDA SECTION:	Consent Calendar
SUBJECT:	Resolution No. 11417 – A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Three-Year Agreement with the County of Sacramento for \$177,646.98 to Provide Emergency Hazardous Materials Response Team Services from the General Fund (Fund 010)
FROM:	Fire Department

RECOMMENDATION / CITY COUNCIL ACTION

The Fire Department recommends that the City Council pass and approve Resolution No. 11417 – A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Three-Year Agreement with the County of Sacramento for \$177,646.98 to Provide Emergency Hazardous Materials Response Team Services from the General Fund (Fund 010).

BACKGROUND / ISSUE

Hazardous materials are present throughout the City and, if released or uncontrolled, can pose significant fire, health, and environmental risks. While many incidents are minor and handled by City first responders, more complex situations require specialized expertise. In such cases, the City may request assistance from one or more Hazardous Materials Response Teams (HMRT) located within Sacramento County to help identify unknown substances and contain the release.

The Sacramento County Environmental Management Department (SCEMD) provides administrative oversight of the County's HMRT program. Because HMRT operations involve advanced training and specialized equipment beyond the City's current capabilities, this agreement enables the City to request assistance from any of the three HMRT units operated

by the Sacramento Fire Department and Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District. The City of Folsom has maintained this service agreement with SCEMD since 2001.

POLICY / RULE

Folsom Municipal Code – 2.36.120 Contracting for Professional Services. Professional services, as defined in Section 2.36.030, costing \$75,049 or greater shall be contracted for by the City Council.

ANALYSIS

The City of Folsom is exposed to a wide range of hazardous material risks related to transportation, manufacturing, storage, and use. These incidents have the potential to result in the release of hazardous substances that could threaten public safety, health, and the environment. Within Folsom's incorporated boundaries, the City serves as the lead agency for pre-incident planning, emergency response, and hazardous materials clean-up.

Pursuant to Folsom Municipal Code §2.24.010, the Fire Department is designated as the lead department for managing hazardous materials incidents that may adversely affect lives or property. The Police Department and the Public Works Street Division often support these responses, along with the Sacramento County Emergency Management Department (SCEMD), which assists in the control and management of both intentional and unintentional hazardous material releases.

The ability of the on-duty Fire Department Incident Commander to request a Hazardous Materials Response Team (HMRT) is critical for the effective and timely mitigation of hazardous incidents. Each year, the Fire Department responds to approximately 170 hazardous materials emergencies. Over the past three years, about 90% of these incidents were classified as Level 1 (Minor Hazard) and were resolved using only local resources. Fewer than 10% were Level 2 (Moderate Hazard) incidents, which required a single HMRT unit to assist in identifying unknown chemicals or stopping the release of hazardous substances. No Level 3 (Severe Hazard) incidents requiring multiple HMRT units have occurred in the past three years.

Even when an HMRT response is not requested, these specialized units are often consulted remotely by Folsom Fire personnel for expert guidance on chemical identification, risk assessment, and mitigation strategies. This consultation capability is a critical resource that enhances the department's ability to manage hazardous materials incidents effectively using a measured, risk-based approach.

The proposed agreement with SCEMD would ensure continued access to HMRT resources for both on-scene response and remote consultation related to Level 2 and Level 3 incidents. While the City of Sacramento, the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District, and the City of Folsom are all signatories to the Sacramento County Fire Agency Automatic Aid Agreement, HMRT units

are classified as "Specialized Agency Resources" under that agreement and are not covered by its automatic aid provisions.

A copy of the proposed agreement is provided in Attachment No. 2.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The total cost of the three-year contract for Hazardous Materials Response Team (HMRT) services provided to the City of Folsom by the County of Sacramento is approximately \$177,646.98. The annual contribution is calculated using a population-based formula applied to all incorporated areas of the County, excluding the City of Sacramento, as well as unincorporated areas.

Annual costs are as follows:

FY 2025-26	\$58,886.63
FY 2026-27	\$58,502.63
FY 2027-28	\$60,257.72

This Agreement is scheduled to begin on July 1, 2025, and will remain in effect through June 30, 2028, unless mutually extended in writing by both the City of Folsom and Sacramento County for up to one additional two-year period.

If extended, the estimated contributions for the optional years are:

*FY 2028-29	\$64,347.01
*FY 2029-30	\$63,927.42

** These extension-year amounts will only apply if both parties formally agree in writing to extend the agreement under the same terms and conditions outlined in the attached Agreement.*

Sufficient funds are budgeted and available for Fiscal Year 2025-26 in the General Fund (Fund 010). Future year contract amounts will be included as part of the annual budget process. As the Agreement allows either party to terminate with 180 days' written notice, future year contributions are not guaranteed. Payments will be made in two equal installments each year—one in November and one in April.

Where possible, the City will pursue cost recovery from individuals or entities found responsible for hazardous materials releases, which may help offset a portion of the annual costs.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

There are no foreseeable environmental impacts.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution No. 11417 – A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Three-Year Agreement with the County of Sacramento for \$177,646.98 to Provide Emergency Hazardous Materials Response Team Services from the General Fund (Fund 010)
2. Agreement between County of Sacramento and the City of Folsom for Hazardous Materials Incident Response Teams

Submitted,



Ken Cusano, Fire Chief