

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD



BOARD AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE OF MEETING: October, 28, 2025

To: Village President and Board of Trustees

From: Napoleon Haney, Village Manager

Topic: Intergovernmental Agreement Creating the Southland Public Safety Communications Dispatch System (a consolidated 911 dispatch facility)

PURPOSE

For the past couple of years, two separate 911 dispatch centers (E-COM and SouthCom) have successfully worked together, in conjunction with the State of Illinois' 911 State Administrator, to complete a 911 center consolidation. This consolidation also includes a new "joint" 911 facility located at 3700 West 183rd Street in Hazel Crest, IL. As part of the process of consolidating the E-COM and SouthCom dispatch systems, an intergovernmental agreement was entered into by the E-COM and SouthCom communities which created a Joint Emergency Telephone System Board (JETSBS). The Emergency Telephone System Act, 50 ILCS 750/1 et seq. empowers the JETSBS to operate a 9-1-1 system. However, the Emergency Telephone System Act contains no authority for a JETSBS to own real property. Because a crucial part of the consolidation of the E-COM and SouthCom dispatch centers is locating the consolidated dispatch center in one building, it is necessary for the dispatch system to own the building and the property it sits on.

Owning the New Facility

In order to accomplish this "property ownership," it is necessary to create an additional unit of intergovernmental cooperation that has the authority to own the building and the property at 3700 West 183rd Street in Hazel Crest, IL. The Southland Public Safety Communications Dispatch System is that intergovernmental entity.

The attached intergovernmental agreement establishes the Southland Public Safety Communications System, defines its purpose, and provides for the powers necessary to operate the dispatch system and, more critically, **own** the new dispatch center in Hazel Crest, IL.

The intergovernmental agreement references the adoption of bylaws for the dispatch system. It is anticipated that those bylaws will be very similar to the ones adopted for the JETSBS.

HISTORY

E-COM, the 911 dispatch center serving Homewood, Flossmoor, Glenwood, Hazel Crest, East Hazel Crest, Country Club Hills, Thornton, South Holland, Riverdale, and Markham, is in the final process of consolidating with SouthCom, another emergency dispatch center that serves Richton Park, Park Forest, and Matteson in the south suburbs.

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E-COM handles all police, fire, emergency management services, public works, 911-emergency and non-emergency calls. The center serves approximately 119,000 residents. A merger with SouthCom will increase this population to approximately 184,000 residents.

OUTCOME

Once Homewood and the eleven (11) partnered communities separately authorize the adoption of the intergovernmental agreement, the Southland Public Safety Communications Dispatch System will be authorized to operate and own the Southland Communications Center at 3700 West 183rd Street in Hazel Crest, IL.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

- **Funding Source:** N/A
- **Budgeted Amount:** N/A
- **Cost:** N/A

LEGAL REVIEW

Completed

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Authorize the Village President to enter into an intergovernmental agreement creating the Southland Communications System as part of the E-COM and SouthCom 911 Consolidation.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Intergovernmental Agreement Creating the Southland Communications System