

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD



BOARD AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE OF MEETING: July 14, 2026

To: Village President and Board of Trustees

From: Napoleon Haney, Village Manager

Topic: Intergovernmental Tower Use Agreements | Southland 911 Communications Center

PURPOSE

The recently opened Southland 911 Communications Center headquartered at 3700 W. 183rd Street in Hazel Crest, IL needs to re-establish certain intergovernmental agreements that were previously between E-COM and their participating communities. Because the Southland Center is an entirely new 911 Dispatch Organization with new member communities, these agreements must be re-signed between the participating communities and the new Southland 911 emergency dispatching agency.

PROCESS

Southland Communication Center utilizes member-owned infrastructure to support mission-critical (emergency) radio communications. Much like cell phone carriers are allowed to install equipment on our water towers, 911 emergency dispatching relies on similar types of technology and equipment to communicate with the various police and fire departments across the region and with the Southland Communications Center specifically. Member-owned communication infrastructure may include antennae, communication towers, cabinets, generators, and other supporting equipment. Southland Communication Center will have the right to maintain the equipment, and install or update equipment as necessary on the Village's water towers, buildings, or other public structures.

The intergovernmental tower agreements were originally established with the participating communities in 2005 under the predecessor agency, E-COM, and were renewed in 2016 in accordance with Public Act 99-0006, including expansion to additional E-COM members. The attached agreement was drafted and reviewed by Southland Communication Center legal representative, Attorney John Kelly with Ottosen Dinolfo Hasenbalg and Castaldo, LLC of Naperville, IL.

The agreement authorizes Southland Communications Center to install, operate, and maintain communications equipment on member facilities in support of police and fire operations. The agreements provide for twenty-four hour access, and require each party to bear its own costs, and establish defined maintenance and liability provisions. The agreement also includes automatic annual renewal with a ninety-day termination provision. These terms reflect long-standing operational practices and ensure continued system reliability and interoperability.

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Formal approval and execution of these agreements under the Southland Communication Center will transition and reaffirm legacy (old) E-COM infrastructure agreements within the current governance structure, ensure uninterrupted access to critical communications infrastructure, provide legal clarity and consistency across all member units of local government, and maintain alignment with statutory requirements and intergovernmental cooperation standards following consolidation. The agreements are administrative in nature, carry no direct financial obligation between the parties, and represent a continuation of existing operational relationships.

Approval is recommended to authorize intergovernmental tower use agreements with all Southland Communication Center members and to place the executed agreements on file.

OUTCOME

Approving and authorizing the intergovernmental tower use agreements between Southland and its members will continue existing operational relationships and ensure uninterrupted access to critical communications infrastructure.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

LEGAL REVIEW

Not Required

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Authorize the Village President to execute intergovernmental tower use agreements with all Southland Communication Center members.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Ordinance