

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD



BOARD AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE OF MEETING: January 10, 2023

To: Village President and Board of Trustees

Through: Napoleon Haney, Village Manager

From: Robert Grabowski, Fire Chief

Topic: MABAS Illinois Master Agreement

PURPOSE

The Homewood Fire Department requires mutual aid from time to time, as do all towns. The Village of Homewood has been a part of MABAS (Mutual Aid Box Alarm System) Illinois for over thirty years. The system is designed to facilitate all levels of mutual aid from day-to-day automatic aid responses to major incidents and disasters requiring significant deployment of resources. The renewal of the agreement with MABAS requires Board approval.

PROCESS

MABAS Illinois is requiring all Fire Departments in the State to update the current agreement between each department and MABAS statewide. Homewood is in Division 24, which includes twenty (20) towns from Tinley Park to the Indiana State line.

Every MABAS participant agency has signed the same contract with their 1,200 plus counterpart MABAS agencies. MABAS agencies agree to: standards of operation, incident command, minimal equipment staffing, fireground safety, and on-scene terminology. MABAS agencies are able to work together seamlessly on any emergency scene.

Without a formal written mutual aid agreement (such as MABAS,) a request for mutual aid assistance becomes a legal quandary. A Fire Chief and his employing community sends resources at great risk should equipment be damaged or a firefighter is injured or killed in the line of duty.

This agreement confirms our participation in the program, which means that the Village of Homewood Fire Department will help other municipalities in our division when needed, and in turn, our neighboring communities, both local and statewide, will help us when the need should arise.

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD



OUTCOME

Approval of the attached agreement will ensure our continued participation in the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System Illinois and secure the benefits of mutual aid in fire protection, firefighting, rescue, emergency medical services, and other activities for the protection of life and property from an emergency or disaster.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

LEGAL REVIEW

Completed

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Pass a resolution authorizing the Village President to enter into a Mutual Aid Box Alarm System Master Agreement (intergovernmental agreement) for participation in the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) Illinois.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- Resolution
- MABAS Master Agreement