



CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Matthew R. Schmitz, MPA – City Manager

DATE OF MEETING: May 11, 2026

ITEM TITLE: 28E Agreement with BCEMA for Radiological Incident Response Assistance

BACKGROUND:

This item is a 28E Agreement between the City of Independence and the Buchanan County Emergency Management Agency (BCEMA). This agreement establishes our collaborative framework to provide emergency assistance to persons in areas at risk of a radiological incident involving the Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC). This topic was previously brought forward for discussion during the May 4, 2026, Work Session.

DISCUSSION:

Under this agreement, our organization commits to maintaining a dedicated team of at least 25 qualified individuals trained for radiological monitoring and decontamination. We will also provide teams for traffic flow response, vehicle and evacuee monitoring, and emergency shelter operations when requested. Our personnel and apparatus will be deployed during declared DAEC emergencies, provided they are not already actively engaged in emergencies within our normal coverage areas of the City of Independence or the Independence Fire District.

The agreement features an initial five-year term, followed by automatic one-year renewals. It also includes a 60-day written notice provision for withdrawal.

RESULTS:

The City has established priorities during strategic planning sessions. This item supports the Vision from that session of **supporting high-quality City services** and **supporting and enhancing City infrastructure**. This item helps achieve that vision by ensuring our emergency response capabilities are well-coordinated and adequately funded through regional partnerships, protecting both our community and those in neighboring areas during critical incidents.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

Financially, each party covers its initial expenses, but BCEMA will reimburse the City for all expenses incurred while providing emergency assistance under this agreement. Participating entities will remit funding to the City within 30 days after each quarter to support our ongoing operational needs, including training, equipment maintenance, and gear replacement.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the 28E Agreement. The requested motion is to authorize the Mayor to complete the document once BCEMA has executed its portion of the agreement.