



CITY OF LAKE FOREST PARK

CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA COVER SHEET

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| Meeting Date | November 7, 2024 |
| Originating Department | Executive |
| Contact Person | Phillip Hill, City Administrator |
| Title | Resolution 24-1976/Authorizing the Mayor to sign the Interlocal Agreement for Regional Emergency Management, known as the Northshore Emergency Management Coalition |

Legislative History

- First Presentation – October 24, 2024, Regular City Council Meeting
 - Second Presentation – November 7, 2024, Special City Council Meeting
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Attachments:

1. Proposed Interlocal Agreement
 2. Current Interlocal Agreement
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Executive Summary

The current Interlocal Agreement (ILA) for Regional Emergency Management, known as the Northshore Emergency Management Coalition (NEMCo), between the Cities of Lake Forest Park and Kenmore, and the Northshore Utility District and King County Fire District No. 16 was approved by Council at the November 8, 2018, regular meeting. During the succeeding 6-years, the needs of each founding agency have changed, necessitating this new ILA.

The Northshore Utility District has informed the board that their needs as an organization have changed and that continued membership in NEMCo no longer serves their needs and will not be involved after December 31, 2024.

The City of Kenmore has notified the board of their intention to explore alternatives in providing their community with emergency management services, potentially outside NEMCo, resulting in the proposed ILA duration of one year. Continued membership in NEMCo is one of the options Kenmore's consultant will explore during their feasibility study.

The Fire District remains committed to NEMCo, though at a lower participation rate, as it provides training to support their operations and support of Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT).

Background

Emergency management involves coordinating and integrating activities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters. This includes coordinating rescue efforts, providing emergency services, establishing predetermined escape and evacuation routes, making sure there are accessible stores of water and food, and opening emergency shelters.

Recognizing the benefits of coordinated actions in a disaster, and the limited resources of each of the founding agencies, NEMCo was formed to provide ongoing training to staff and elected officials, coordinated activation of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), training of residents through CERT, resource management and preparation of emergency plans.

The largest stand up of the EOC in the past 6-years was in response to the Covid Pandemic. While member agencies did not meet in person, online formats were utilized to meet on a weekly basis for updates from state and regional emergency management agencies and to consider appropriate responses and timing of such, while operating in uncharted territory.

Fiscal & Policy Implications

During 2025, the administration will be following the study conducted by Kenmore and speaking to the benefits of the NEMCo model. The administration will also be exploring options on how NEMCo could move forward if Kenmore determines that a different approach better serves their community.

With the fire district participating at roughly $\frac{1}{4}$ their previous commitment, and NUD leaving NEMCo, the two cities will realize a large increase in costs to continue NEMCo through 2025, from \$47,528 in 2024 to \$83,861 in 2025.

If NEMCo is dissolved following CY2025, a reconciliation and distribution of any remaining funds and assets by Percentage Share will occur.

Staff Recommendation

Approve Resolution 24-1976/Authorizing the Mayor to sign the Interlocal Agreement for Regional Emergency Management, known as the Northshore Emergency Management Coalition.