

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 17, 2025

TO: Melissa R. Marsh, City Manager

FROM: Sean P. Ballantine, Director of Public Services

SUBJECT: SOCPWA Mutual Aid Authority Agreement

The City of Madison Heights has been a long-time member of the Southeastern Oakland County Public Works Association (SOCPWA), a group of public works professionals in the area who meet monthly to collaborate and exchange ideas. As part of this association, the City is also a member of its Mutual Aid Authority, with the last agreement dating back to 1987 (attached).

The SOCPWA Mutual Aid Authority allows the city to provide and request assistance from its neighboring communities in the event of an emergency or other unforeseen occurrence. Most recently, the City has been able to provide brush chipping services to Farmington Hills after a severe windstorm, and loaned large water main repair straps to Birmingham and Berkley. This cooperation maintains goodwill and professional relationships with our surrounding communities, and further enables us and our counterparts to provide vital public services on a regional level.

SOCPWA recently updated this agreement to eliminate obsolete language related to seated committees, as well as membership requirements, such as providing an inventory list of available equipment and materials annually. These changes primarily relate to advances in technology and communications since the original agreement was drafted.

Staff recommends that Council approve the updated Agreement with the Southeastern Oakland County Public Works Association – Public Works Mutual Aid Authority, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign on behalf of the City.

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