



BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

AB 6396
January 16, 2024
Consent Agenda

AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

TITLE:	AB 6396: Amendment to the Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network Operator Interlocal Cooperation Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Authorize the City Manager to sign the amendment to the Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network (PSERN) Operator Interlocal Cooperation Agreement (ILA).	

DEPARTMENT:	Police
STAFF:	Ed Holmes, Chief of Police Jeff Magnan, Police Commander
COUNCIL LIAISON:	n/a
EXHIBITS:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network Operator Interlocal Cooperation Agreement Amendment to the Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network Operator Interlocal Cooperation Agreement
CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:	n/a

AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURE	\$ n/a
AMOUNT BUDGETED	\$ n/a
APPROPRIATION REQUIRED	\$ n/a

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda bill is to authorize the City Manager to sign the amendment to the Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network (PSERN) Operator Interlocal Cooperation Agreement.

- In 2023, partner cities moved operations of the Eastside Public Safety Communications Agency (EPSCA) radio network to the newly formed Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network (PSERN).
- The PSERN Operator has suggested, through its member Operations Committee, a cleanup of language in the ILA.

BACKGROUND

The Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network (“PSERN”) is the operator of the emergency operations radio system. The PSERN Agency is a nonprofit corporation whose members are local governments

(cities and King County). PSERN was approved by nearly two-thirds of King County voters in April 2015. The project cost was \$273 million, or 7 cents per \$1,000 in assessed property value over nine years.

The PSERN Agency was established under the PSERN Operator Interlocal Cooperation Agreement, which the City Council approved at their October 6, 2020 meeting (Exhibit 1 and [AB 5761](#)). With the establishment of the PSERN Operator, the dissolution of the legacy radio system (EPSCA) was required, which the City Council approved in their October 3, 2023 meeting ([AB 6353](#)).

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

In December of 2023, the PSERN Operator requested minor changes to the ILA and requested adoption by the member agencies (Exhibit 2). The PSERN Operator, in pertinent part, requested the following changes be authorized by its member agencies under Section 5.0 of the ILA (new language is underlined while removed language is show with strike through notations):

The Board of Directors will create an Operating Board (also referred to as the “Operations Committee”) of PSERN System User Agencies, which will include at least one ~~fire commissioner as a member~~ representing fire services, to provide advice and perform other duties as deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors. The obligation to create and maintain an Operating Board shall be included in the PSERN Operator’s articles of incorporation or bylaws.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Authorize the City Manager to sign the amendment to the Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network (PSERN) Operator Interlocal Cooperation Agreement (ILA) substantially in the form set forth in Exhibit 1 of this AB, and to execute for the best interest of the City any future amendments to the same ILA that are de minimis or non-substantive.