



BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

AB 5789
January 19, 2021
Consent Calendar

AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

TITLE:	AB 5789: Second Amended and Restated EPSCA ILA	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Authorize the City Manager to sign the Second Amended and Restated EPSCA ILA.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution

DEPARTMENT:	Fire
STAFF:	Steve Heitman, Fire Chief
COUNCIL LIAISON:	n/a
EXHIBITS:	1. Second Amended and Restated EPSCA ILA 2. Resolution No. 1583 3. PSERN Operator ILA
CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:	n/a

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

SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda bill is to review and approve the Second Amended and Restated Eastside Public Safety Communications Agency (EPSCA) Interlocal Agreement (see Exhibit 1).

BACKGROUND

The **Eastside Public Safety Communications Agency ("EPSCA")** is one of four owners of the current public safety emergency radio communications system in King County. The other three are Valley Com, Seattle, and King County. In 1992, EPSCA was formed as a separate nonprofit corporation by interlocal agreement, whose members are the five cities of Bellevue, Issaquah, Kirkland, Mercer Island, and Redmond (the "Principals"), and Issaquah joined in 1993. Each of the five Principals has a seat on the Executive Board, which has final decision-making authority on policy issues and oversees the work of the Executive Director.

EPSCA's primary responsibilities are to maintain the public safety 800 MHz radio system in the north and east King County area, and to maintain the handheld radio sets and public safety dispatch consoles that communicate via that system. The EPSCA portion of the 800 MHz system is interoperable with the Seattle, King County, and Valley Com portions, but maintenance decisions are separately controlled by the four owners.

The current system was initially funded by a 1993 county wide property tax levy.

The **Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network (“PSERN”)** is the successor to the current emergency radio communications system. Instead of four separate public owners, a single public owner/operator will be created - the “PSERN Agency.” Similar to EPSCA, the PSERN Agency will be a nonprofit corporation whose members are local governments (cities and the 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 is established under the PSERN Operator Interlocal Cooperation Agreement, which Council approved at their October 6, 2020 meeting with Resolution No. 1583 (see Exhibit 2). The establishment of the PSERN Agency requires the dissolution of EPSCA as a separate nonprofit corporation and transforms it into a Joint Board, with a member city serving as administrator. The Joint Boards purpose is to select the member cities PSERN Board representative, and any other joint activities under the PSERN Operations ILA (See Exhibit 3).

The four Executive Board members are (1) the Mayor of Seattle or his/her designee, (2) the King County Executive or his/her designee, (3) “a mayor or city manager representing the five EPSCA Principal Cities or his/her designee, selected in a manner agreed to by all EPSCA Cities”, and (4) a mayor or city manager representing the five Valley Com cities or his/her designee, selected in a manner agreed to by all Valley Com cities.

Therefore, through the Second Amended and Restated EPSCA ILA the Principals hereby create the **Eastside Public Safety Agency Joint Board (“Joint Board”)** for the purpose of serving as the group through which the Principals determine to jointly exercise their rights under the PSERN Operator ILA as authorized by the Interlocal Cooperation Act (Ch. 39.34 RCW), for the purpose of choosing their Executive Board member. The Joint Board is not formed as a separate legal entity. The Joint Board is the successor administrative entity to EPSCA for purposes of facilitating the performance by the Principals of their rights and responsibilities under the PSERN Operator ILA to appoint a PSERN Board Member and alternate and any other joint rights and responsibilities under the PSERN Operator ILA.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the City Manager to execute the Second Amended and Restated EPSCA ILA substantially in the form attached as Exhibit 1 to AB 5789.