



## **CITY OF NOVI CITY COUNCIL NOVEMBER 25, 2024**

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Resolution approving the City's renewal of participation in the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS), an intergovernmental agreement providing fire mutual aid assistance among its signatories.

**SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT:** Fire Department

**KEY HIGHLIGHTS:**

- The Agreement will secure to each participating community the benefits of mutual aid in fire protection, suppression, rescue and emergency medical assistance, hazardous materials control, technical rescues and/or other emergency support in the event of an emergency, disaster or other serious threat to public health and safety.
- The last resolution was signed by Novi City Council on May 9, 2016.
- This interlocal agreement was reviewed by legal and is a duplicate of the 2016 agreement.
- It has been over eight years requiring a new signed agreement. The Urban Cooperative Act under which this agreement requires that signed copies be filed with the County Clerk of each participating County as well as the Department of State Office of the Great Seal.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs has put its full support behind the MABAS system and encourages all fire departments in the State of Michigan to form regions and divisions. Every community cannot afford to have the equipment and personnel to respond to large scale incidents. When completed the MABAS system will include all fire departments in the State of Michigan. Division 2 is made up of 66 fire departments from Oakland and Western Wayne Counties. The resources of these departments include all the fire apparatus and personnel which may be available to augment our City's resources during a manmade or natural disaster.

As a MABAS member agency, every community has the same agreement as signatories, all agreeing to send available predetermined resources to assist a stricken community. This agreement does not replace local mutual aid agreements already in place. The benefits of MABAS include improving disaster response capabilities, reducing the impact of a disaster, strengthening interstate mobilization, and bringing fire service stakeholders together.

This agreement provides the legal parameters for intrastate and interstate mutual aid such as liability, Worker's Compensation, and indemnification language that is required of inter-local agreements. MABAS agencies are required to adopt the Michigan Emergency Management Assistance Compact (MEMAC). These two agreements provide mutual aid resources and the capability for reimbursement when a department responds pursuant to a governor's declaration of disaster. As with other agreements, the City of Novi will need a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into the MABAS Agreement. Legal counsel has reviewed this matter and opines there is no legal impediment which precludes the City of Novi from executing this agreement.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approval of Resolution approving the City's renewal of participation in the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS), an intergovernmental agreement providing fire mutual aid assistance among its signatories.