



PUBLIC WORKS

To: Mayor and Town Council

From: Carrie Jones, Director of Public Works

Through: Mario Canizares, Town Manager
Chuck Ewings, Assistant Town Manager

Re: North Central Texas Public Works Emergency Response Team

Town Council Meeting – February 25, 2025

Strategic Visioning Priority: 4. Provide Excellent Municipal Services

Agenda Item:

Consider and act upon approval of a Resolution authorizing the Town Manager to execute a Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement by and between the Town of Prosper and North Central Texas Participating Local Governments and/or Public/Political Subdivisions located wholly or partially within the State of Texas.

Description of Agenda Item:

Based on lessons learned from several past natural disasters and large-scale incidents, Public Works support has been identified as a necessary resource which needed a more regional approach to coordination. As a result, the North Central Texas Public Works Emergency Response Team (PWERT) was created to provide public works assistance when an emergency or disaster overwhelms local resources, especially within the North Central Texas region. While it was formed by and for local governments and operates on a voluntary quid pro quo basis, the team is supported and facilitated by the North Central Texas Council of Governments Emergency Preparedness Department. PWERT first deployed in response to resource requests during the April 3, 2012, tornado outbreak and continues to grow to meet regional needs.

There are currently 66 member cities throughout the North Central Texas region. While jurisdictions sign the mutual aid agreement to join the team, it is always up to that jurisdiction in any circumstance to either approve or deny a request for assistance. Signing the mutual aid agreement allows for this discretion by management but it also offers the protection of payment terms and allowable Operation Period, which are required to protect the town if reimbursement is sought for a disaster in the future. Additionally, once a jurisdiction joins the team, if/when public works resources are necessary to support a local response, it only takes 1 call to get needed resources identified, located, and sent. This call goes directly to the 24-hour response line and a team leader or member answers the call and coordinates the request at the direction of the requesting agency.

Budget Impact:

Any impact on the budget will be in personnel services and equipment use in the event the Town sends employees to respond to a request from another City or in the event the Town requests assistance which would require reimbursement to the responding agencies.

Legal Obligations and Review:

Terrence Welch of Brown & Hofmeister, L.L.P., has approved the attached documents as to form and legality.

Attached Documents:

1. Resolution
2. PWERT Mutual Aid Agreement

Town Staff Recommendation:

Town Staff recommends approval of a Resolution authorizing the Town Manager to execute a Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement by and between the Town of Prosper and North Central Texas Participating Local Governments and/or Public/Political Subdivisions located wholly or partially within the State of Texas.

Proposed Motion:

I move to approve a Resolution authorizing the Town Manager to execute a Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement by and between the Town of Prosper and North Central Texas Participating Local Governments and/or Public/Political Subdivisions located wholly or partially within the State of Texas.