

VILLAGE OF ROSCOE

AGENDA ITEM - STAFF REPORT



Agenda Item:	Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between the Village of Roscoe and Village of Rockton for Police Mutual Aid.		
Date:	04/21/2026	Meeting:	Committee of the Whole
Prepared by:	Chief Sam Hawley	Department:	Police Department

Overview/Background Information

On or near June 1st, 2026, the Roscoe Road bridge project is expected to begin, which will prevent vehicles, specifically police vehicles, from taking the most direct route connecting the east and west sides of the Village of Roscoe. Alternate routes will either be Hononegah Rd to the north or Ralston Rd to the south, each of which add significant time (approx. 15 minutes non-emergency response) when trying to reach the opposite side of the Village.

Key Issues

The aforementioned alternate routes, necessitated by the road closure introduces a substantial delay in response times for law enforcement personnel addressing both urgent emergency and less critical non-emergency calls. This protracted response window consequently creates a potentially perilous public safety issue, as every minute lost can escalate the severity of an incident, endanger individuals, or lead to increased property damage.

To mitigate these critical delays and enhance community safety, the implementation of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is crucial. Under this formal agreement, officers from the Rockton Police Department would be strategically dispatched to calls originating from the west side of Roscoe. This proactive measure would enable them to provide immediate and much-needed backup in volatile situations or, critically, to act as the initial officers on scene. In this capacity, they would be responsible for assessing the situation, securing the area, rendering preliminary aid, or de-escalating conflicts until Roscoe Police officers can navigate the longer routes and arrive to assume full command.

Furthermore, demonstrating the reciprocal nature and foresight embedded within this collaborative framework, the Roscoe Police Department would be called upon to offer similar assistance to the southeast area of Rockton. This specific provision is designed to address the anticipated challenges posed by the scheduled Route 75 bridge project in Rockton, a significant infrastructure undertaking slated to commence in 2027. During this period, which will undoubtedly involve major traffic disruptions and detours, Roscoe officers would provide vital support, acting as first responders or backup, thereby ensuring that residents in the affected Rockton quadrant continue to receive timely and effective police services despite the geographical impediments.

Fiscal Note/Budget Impact

The approval of this MOA would have no foreseeable negative fiscal or budgetary impact.

Prior Legislative Actions

N/A

Action Required/Recommendation

Recommendation to send to Village Board Meeting for vote.

Attachments

Copy of Memorandum of Understanding between the Village of Rockton and the Village of Roscoe for Police Mutual Aid.