

TO: City Council
FROM: John Doan, City Administrator
DATE: January 4, 2022
SUBJECT: Regional Fire Authority Planning Consultant Contract with The Athena Group

1) Recommended Action:

Authorize the Mayor to sign the Service Provider Agreement with The Athena Group to support and facilitate the work of the Regional Fire Authority Planning Committee up to \$120,000.

2) Background:

The City entered into an interlocal agreement with the City of Olympia in May 2021 to explore the potential of a Regional Fire Authority between the two jurisdictions. A committee of elected officials, department leadership, and IAFF representatives was appointed. In order to support and facilitate the work of the Planning Committee, the City of Tumwater as the lead agency, solicited proposals to do this work. The Committee concurs that the team assembled by The Athena Group is the best qualified to do this work. Attached is the proposal from the Athena Group and the proposed contract. Athena is a local facilitation and consulting firm and they will be supplemented with subject matter experts on fire regionalization and finance.

3) Policy Support:

Strategic Priorities and Goals 2021-2026

Provide and Sustain Quality Public Safety Services: Explore regional fire and emergency medical services

4) Alternatives:

☐ Do not pursue this agreement.

5) Fiscal Notes:

The costs for this work are being shared with the City of Olympia. Although the contract is for \$99,900.00, staff is requesting additional authority for up to \$120,000 to cover additional consulting work that may be identified in the process.

6) Attachments:

- A. Athena Group Proposal
- B. Service Provider Agreement with The Athena Group