



City Council Report

Date: February 26, 2018
To: City Council
Through: John Pombier, Assistant City Manager
From: Travis Cutright, Chief Information Officer
Randy Thompson, Deputy Chief Information Officer
Subject: Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with TOPAZ Regional Wireless Cooperative (TRWC) (Citywide)

Purpose and Recommendation

The City Council is requested to approve and authorize the City Manager, or his designated representative, to enter into a Communications Strategic Alliance intergovernmental agreement (IGA) on behalf of the TOPAZ Regional Wireless Cooperative (TRWC) to enable mutually beneficial tasks, projects, or programs with one or more other communications cooperatives or systems.

No additional cost is associated with authorization of the IGA; however, each organization will be responsible for its own costs incurred as a result of this IGA.

Background / Discussion

On October 9, 2013, a joint meeting of the TRWC and the (Phoenix) Regional Wireless Cooperative (RWC) was held to acknowledge the need for governance to improve and increase the operational and interoperable capabilities of the two adjacent public safety radio networks in response to user demands. The result of numerous meetings over the past four years of a joint Governance Working Group is the Communications Strategic Alliance.

The Mission and Vision for the Communications Strategic Alliance agreement are as follows:

- Mission: To achieve excellence in radio and data communications supporting public safety and municipal partners.
- Vision: To assure seamless radio and data communications to meet the operational needs of the users in a cost effective and sustainable manner.

The Guiding Principles for the Communications Strategic Alliance agreement are as follows:

- Provide Valley-wide [region-wide or statewide] operable & interoperable communication services which are focused on the operational needs of the end user –universal “push to talk” coverage should be our overarching goal
- Maximize use of all existing resources including financial and personnel
- Establish and maintain system compatibility which is sustainable over time
- Focus on the needs of the end users which includes both first responders and the public

The following are the highlights of the Communications Strategic Alliance:

- Master IGA structure with subordinate task orders
- Low-friction formalized approach to work together
- Emphasis on compatibility, cooperation, & sharing

- Coordinating Council to drive work among systems
- Heavy user participation to ensure needs are met

Alternatives

Council may choose not to authorize this IGA.

Fiscal Impact

No fiscal impact with this IGA. Any subordinate task orders executed under the Communications Strategic Alliance agreement resulting in costs to Mesa exceeding the Council approval threshold will be brought before Council for approval.

Coordinated With

The TRWC Board of Directors approved and adopted the Communications Strategic Alliance at their December 7, 2017 meeting. Dale Shaw, TRWC Executive Director, will enter into the IGA on behalf of the TRWC after approval by the Mesa City Council.

The RWC Board of Directors approved and adopted the Communications Strategic Alliance agreement at their November 16, 2017 meeting.

In addition, this project has been coordinated with the Police Department, Fire and Medical Department, and the Information Technology Department.