



City Council Report

Date: November 6, 2023
To: City Council
Through: Scott Butler, Assistant City Manager
From: Mary Cameli, Fire Chief
Forrest Smith, Assistant Fire Chief
Subject: IGA with the Town of Fountain Hills for fire dispatch services
Citywide

Purpose and Recommendation

The Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for fire dispatch services provided by the City of Mesa and adding the Town of Fountain Hills as a dispatch partner. The agreement will ensure uninterrupted fire dispatch services for the Town of Fountain Hills.

Background

The City of Mesa provides fire dispatch services through an IGA to the Superstition Fire and Medical Department, the Town of Gilbert, the Town of Queen Creek, and the Rio Verde Fire District. This partner relationship supports emergency response efficiency and controls operational costs through the centralization of services.

Discussion

The Town of Fountain Hills is in the process of transitioning from its Rural/Metro emergency services contract to an in-house fire department. This transition also includes becoming a part of the Topaz Regional Wireless Cooperative (TRWC). This Agreement will be contingent on the Town of Fountain Hills' acceptance in and continued membership of the TRWC. Should TRWC membership be denied and/or terminated then this Agreement is null and void. The Town of Fountain Hills Fire Department currently receives dispatching services through Rural Metro Corporation. In September of 2023, the Fountain Hills Town Council approved an IGA between the City of Mesa and the Town of Fountain Hills.

Alternatives

The Council could choose not to enter into the agreement with the Town of Fountain Hills. This action would leave the Town of Fountain Hills with the option of remaining with Rural Metro Corporation or applying for fire dispatch services through the City of Phoenix.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact to the City of Mesa. Dispatch, mobile computer terminal (MCT), and Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) modernizations fees collected from the Town of Fountain Hills will provide full cost recovery for the services provided.

Coordinated With

The Fire and Medical Department coordinated with the City Attorney and the Town of Fountain Hills.