



## AGENDA BILL

Agenda Item No. 7(C)

**Date:** March 21, 2017  
**To:** El Cerrito City Council  
**From:** Paul Keith, Chief of Police  
Lance Maples, Fire Chief  
**Subject:** Public Safety Dispatch Services

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### **ACTION REQUESTED**

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager or his designee to enter into agreements with the Office of the Sheriff of Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District for the provision of public safety dispatch services from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2022 for police dispatch and June 1, 2017 to December 31, 2019 for fire dispatch.

### **BACKGROUND**

The El Cerrito Police Department and El Cerrito Fire Department currently contract with the City of Richmond for the provision of dispatch and records management services. The most recent agreement expired on June 30, 2014. Since June 30, 2014, the City of Richmond continues to provide dispatch and records management services as outlined in the Consolidated Communications Agreement and the Consortium Records Management Agreement.

In July 2016, representatives from the City of Richmond and the Richmond Police Department held a meeting to inform the partner agencies in the West County Consortium that the City of Richmond was withdrawing from the consortium. The City of Richmond expressed an interest in continuing to provide dispatch services under a different cost and contract structure. The City of Richmond also informed the City of El Cerrito that it intended to stop providing after-hours records support and police data hosting. The City of Richmond informed the City of El Cerrito that it intended to increase the cost of dispatch services for the police department and begin charging for fire dispatch services.

The City of Richmond notified the City of El Cerrito that it intends to stop providing dispatch services on July 1, 2017, unless the City of El Cerrito signs a new dispatch agreement at a significantly higher cost.

Following that meeting, staff explored dispatch options with other emergency dispatch centers in the region. Staff also evaluated the costs associated with switching dispatch software and records management software.

On December 20, 2016, the City Council approved a resolution to allow the City Manager to enter into negotiations with the Office of the Sheriff, Contra Costa County

Fire Protection District, and the County of Contra Costa for the provision of dispatch services. In January 2017, the City of El Cerrito began negotiating with these entities.

In January 2017, the City of Richmond informed the City of El Cerrito that they will agree to provide interim dispatch services after July 1, 2017 at a 10% premium over the already increased cost if the City of El Cerrito has not yet transferred dispatch services to another agency.

The City of Richmond provided cost information to the City of El Cerrito to continue providing public safety dispatch services. The cost for a new dispatch contract for police dispatch with the City of Richmond is \$803,257 annually and the cost for a new contract for fire dispatch is \$481,954 annually. The combined cost for police and fire dispatch, provided by the City of Richmond, would be \$1,285,211 annually.

In February 2017, the Office of the Sheriff and the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District presented agreements to the City of El Cerrito for the provision of public safety dispatch services. These agreements are the result of negotiations between the City of El Cerrito and these entities.

The Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department will present an agreement to the Board of Supervisors of the County of Contra Costa to allow them to provide public safety dispatch services to be offered to the City of El Cerrito.

### **ANALYSIS**

Staff has identified the Office of the Sheriff of Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District as the providers that best meet the needs of the El Cerrito Police and Fire Departments. The Office of the Sheriff currently manages emergency police dispatch for the unincorporated communities of Contra Costa County as well as the cities of Pittsburg, Oakley, Moraga, Orinda, Lafayette, and Danville. Contra Costa County Fire Protection District manages the fire dispatch services for their service area, the unincorporated communities of Contra Costa, as well as Pinole, Hercules, Moraga, Orinda, Oakley and Brentwood. Should the City decide to enter into an agreement with these County entities for dispatch services, staff anticipates that the change will not be noticeable to users of the 911 emergency systems.

### **STRATEGIC PLAN CONSIDERATIONS**

Approving the attached resolution will allow the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Office of the Sheriff of Contra Costa County and an agreement with the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District for dispatch services. These agreements will create a long term solution to public safety dispatching in El Cerrito. This will help the City in its goal to achieve long term financial sustainability by allowing staff to reduce dispatch related costs over a multiple year contract. In addition, staff will continue to ensure the public's health and safety by preventing a lapse in dispatch services.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Approval of this resolution will authorize the City Manager to enter into agreements for public safety dispatch services. Staff has identified the Office of the Sheriff of Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District as the preferred solution for dispatch services. The funding required for these agreements is already authorized in the FY 2016/2018 budget.

The Office of the Sheriff identified the cost for El Cerrito Police Dispatch services as being no greater than \$439,012.40 for fiscal year 2017/2018. The Contra Costa County Fire Protection District identified the cost for El Cerrito Fire Dispatch services as being no greater than \$123,832 for FY 2017/2018. The total anticipated cost of Public Safety Dispatch Services for FY 2017/2018 is therefore projected to be no greater than \$562,844.40.

The budgeted amount for dispatch services in FY 2017/18 is \$636,000. The agreements offered by the Office of the Sheriff of Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District will result in an estimated overall financial savings of \$81,452.60 over the budgeted amount in FY 2017/18. The agreement for police dispatch is for a period of 5 years ending June 30, 2022 and may be terminated by either party without cause, with 90 days written notice. The agreement for fire dispatch is for a period of 2 and one half years and may be terminated by either party without cause, with 90 days written notice.

**LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The City Attorney has reviewed the attached agreements and has approved them as to form.

**Reviewed by:**



**Scott Hanin**  
**City Manager**

**Attachments:**

1. Resolution
2. Contra Costa County Fire Protection District Agreement
3. Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department Agreement

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-XX

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL CERRITO AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH THE OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY AND THE CONTRA COSTA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FOR THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCH SERVICES FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2017 TO JUNE 30, 2022, FOR POLICE DISPATCH AND FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2017 TO DECEMBER 31, 2019, FOR FIRE DISPATCH

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond has communicated its intent not to renew the Consolidated Communication Agreement, under which it provided public safety and fire dispatch services to the City of El Cerrito; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Sheriff of Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District have demonstrated their interest in providing public safety dispatch services to the City of El Cerrito; and

WHEREAS, Staff has identified the Sheriff of Contra Costa and the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District as the preferred public safety dispatch service; and

WHEREAS, an agreement with the Office of the Sheriff of Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District will ensure continuity of emergency 911 services; and,

WHEREAS, the agreements offered by the Office of the Sheriff of Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District offer an overall financial savings over the current dispatch services agreement.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of El Cerrito that it hereby authorizes the City Manager to enter into agreements with the Office of the Sheriff of Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District for the provision of public safety dispatch services, in substantially the form presented, allowing for minor changes requested by the Board of Supervisors, if any, with approval of the City Attorney.

I CERTIFY that at a regular meeting on March X, 2017 the City Council of the City of El Cerrito passed this Resolution by the following vote:

AYES:	COUNCILMEMBERS:
NOES:	COUNCILMEMBERS:
ABSTAIN:	COUNCILMEMBERS:
ABSENT:	COUNCILMEMBERS: