



Request for City Council Committee Action From the Department of Public Works

Date: April 19, 2005
To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee
Referral to:

Subject: Joint Powers Agreement for New Metropolitan Radio Board

Recommendation:

- Authorization to enter into a Joint Powers Agreement with the newly formed Metropolitan Emergency Services Board.
- "Pursuant to Article III, Section 1 of the proposed Joint Powers Agreement, the City of Minneapolis elects to have one representative who shall have the authority to cast its two votes on the Board. The City of Minneapolis hereby appoints Councilmember Barret W.S. Lane as its representative and Councilmember Paul T. Ostrow to serve as alternate representative to serve from July 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005 as provided in the Joint Powers Agreement."

Prepared by: Steven A. Kotke, Deputy Director of Public Works for Internal Services
Approved by:

Klara A. Fabry, P.E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

Presenters: Steven A. Kotke, Deputy Director of Public Works for Internal Services

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

- X** No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget
- Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- Other financial impact (Explain):
- Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Background/Supporting Information:

In 1999 the City entered into a cooperative agreement with the newly formed Metropolitan Radio Board (MRB) to participate as an initial user in a Digital Trunked 800 MHz Regional Radio System. The original 800 MHz project was a joint project with several other jurisdictions, to develop a regional interoperable radio system. The Metropolitan Radio Board was established by State statute and has most recently consisted of 21 members, including the seven metro counties. Minnesota law requires the Metropolitan Radio Board (MRB) to sunset on or before July 1, 2006, therefore a successor regional radio board needs to be established pursuant to Minnesota Statutes

to continue to plan, implement, maintain, and operate regional and local improvements to the statewide, shared, trunked radio and communication system.

A joint 911 Board-MRB merger committee has crafted a joint powers agreement (JPA) merging the Metropolitan Radio Board and the Metropolitan 911 Board. This new organization will be called the Metropolitan Emergency Services Board (MESB) and will be the successor to the MRB as allowed by Minnesota law and inherit the responsibilities outlined in the current City of Minneapolis-MRB cooperative agreement.

The terms and conditions of the new JPA allow the City the choice of having one or two representatives to serve on the MESB. We are recommending the City has one permanent representative with the authority to cast both votes and one alternate representative. The first member and alternate appointed shall serve from July 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005 and there after, appointed representatives shall serve one year terms. The City will also have a seat on the MESB Cost Allocation Committee and alternate with Hennepin County representatives holding MESB Executive committee offices. The terms of this agreement will be initially for 2.5 years and is renewable for additional terms of up to 5 years.

Councilmember Lane and City Staff have participated on the necessary committees over the last few months to ensure the City's interests are met.

Therefore, we recommend the Council adopt and sign on as a full participant in the MESB. We also recommend, pursuant to Article III, Section 1 of the proposed Joint Powers Agreement, that the City appoint Councilmember Barret W. S. Lane as its representative and Councilmember Paul T. Ostrow to serve as the alternate representative to serve from July 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005 as provided in the Joint Powers Agreement.