



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Mayor and City Council

**From:** Mac Tristan, Chief of Police

**Date:** June 11, 2012

**Reference:** **Resolution authorizing and directing the city manager to negotiate an Interlocal Agreement with the Town of Addison, City of Carrollton, and the City of Farmers Branch regarding the construction, management and operation of a consolidated public safety dispatch center.**

**2030:** Coppel 2030, Healthy Neighborhoods

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### **Introduction:**

In September 2010, The City of Coppel joined The City of Carrollton, The Town of Addison and The City of Farmers Branch in conducting a feasibility study to determine the possibility of creating one Public Safety Dispatch Center for all 4 cities. The primary purpose was to find ways to share and combine services in order to eliminate duplication, reduce costs and improve services for citizens. The study has taken many turns due to the complicated nature of the project, but has recently concluded that a combined public safety dispatch center would meet the goals listed above. City Council has been kept informed with several updates over the last two and a half years.

The Public Safety Radio system project (which was approved by Council on June 11, 2013) and the consolidation study are linked as the radio equipment used by the dispatch centers will have to be installed in one center or four different centers. In order to finalize the design of the radio system and maximize the potential cost savings, it is essential to know how many 911 dispatch centers (PSAP's) are needed. Installing one dispatch center will bring significant savings for all four cities.

### **Analysis:**

The feasibility study indicates a clear cost savings over the next 20 years for each city as well as improved delivery of service to our citizens. We are now at a point where the four city managers need to start negotiating cost that will include a facility to house the center and all of the equipment and personnel necessary to run the center. All four cities are asking that each council pass a Resolution authorizing the city manager to negotiate an interlocal agreement with the other three cities for the construction, management, and operation of a consolidated dispatch center. This action is necessary as it will determine the final cost of this initiative.

### **Fiscal Impact:**

There is no fiscal impact of the Resolution. The purpose of the Resolution is to determine the final cost of a Combined Dispatch Center for each city.

**Legal Review:**

Agenda item was reviewed by Robert Hager on June 4, 2013.

**Recommendation:**

Consolidated dispatch centers have proven to provide cost savings and increase efficiency and effectiveness across the country. Consolidation streamlines the activities of a 911 services and eliminates duplication and redundancy. Some of the largest and most critical advantages include the ability to seamlessly talk to surrounding emergency personnel and assuring that the most expedient police/fire/EMS unit is directed to emergency situations.

Therefore, staff recommends that the City Council direct the City Manager to move forward to consolidate dispatch services with the cities of Carrollton, Coppell, and Addison.