

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
CITY COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: ANTHONY GOSSNER, FIRE CHIEF
FIRE DEPARTMENT
SUBJECT: STUDY FINDINGS REGARDING COOPERATIVE SERVICES
BETWEEN SANTA ROSA FIRE DEPARTMENT AND RINCON
VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

AGENDA ACTION: STUDY SESSION

RECOMMENDATION

This item is provided for Council's information to understand the consultant Emergency Services Consulting International (ESCI of Wilsonville, Oregon) findings as a result of their study regarding cooperative services between the City of Santa Rosa Fire Department (SRFD) and the Rincon Valley Fire Protection District (RVFPD).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ESCI was engaged by the SRFD to conduct a study regarding if and how services could be shared between the SRFD and the RVFPD. Both agencies have a long-standing and established integrated working relationship. As a result of the long-standing history and coordination between these agencies, the question was raised regarding the ability and practicality of the SRFD providing fire protection services to the RVFPD service area.

BACKGROUND

Santa Rosa Fire Department (SRFD)

The SRFD was established as a full-time fire department in January 1894. SRFD also serves the Roseland Fire Protection District through contract, along with automatic aid agreements with the County of Sonoma, Rincon Valley, and Bennett Valley Fire Protection Districts. SRFD has a staff of 146 employees serving a community population of over 174,000 residents. There are ten fire stations strategically located around the City. SRFD responds to approximately 25,000 calls for service per year for fire, emergency medical, rescue, and hazardous material incidents. The department provides fire suppression, rescue, first response emergency medical services,

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operations level hazardous materials response, fire prevention and life-safety services from all ten fire stations, covering 42 square miles within the project area.

Rincon Valley Fire Protection District (RVFPD)

RVFPD was formed in 1948. Since its inception, RVFPD has provided increasingly higher levels of fire protection and emergency medical services to a rapidly growing population – approximately 30,000 people in a primarily rural area of 98 square miles, including the Windsor Fire Protection District (WFPD) area under a joint powers agreement. In 2014, RVFPD responded to 3,215 fire, emergency medical, rescue and various other incidents. RVFPD operates four fire stations. Two of the fire stations are fully staffed 24 hours a day/ 365 days a year with 18 full-time state-certified firefighters. The other two stations are staffed with volunteer firefighters.

PRIOR CITY COUNCIL REVIEW

NOT APPLICABLE

ANALYSIS

ESCI has conducted a comprehensive analysis of both agencies and has provided a five section report that includes the following elements: a community and agency overview, service delivery and agency analysis, cooperative service strategies and recommendations, financial impacts, and an implementation plan for a contract for service delivery model.

The report provided by ESCI reviewed all areas of service, labor, equipment and infrastructure. The report reviews different options so that a comprehensive decision can be made for the City of Santa Rosa. ESCI has provided two contract for service delivery options (with multiple cost allocation models) and a governance implementation approach that will offer enhanced service levels within the available financial and operational resources. The proposed service delivery models are based on a two-option premise: Enhancement of Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) and contract for service operational and administrative unification.

FISCAL IMPACT

There are no fiscal impacts from receiving this report. The fiscal impacts are determined within various stages of implementation which may or may not be chosen as viable steps for the City of Santa Rosa.

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is not a project which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15378.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

NOT APPLICABLE

NOTIFICATION

NOT APPLICABLE

ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT 1 – CONTRACT FOR SERVICE FEASIBILITY STUDY

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