

# **REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL**

## ***City of Salinas, California***

DATE: June 14, 2016

FROM: Edmond A. Rodriguez, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: **CONTRACT RENEWAL FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES WITH THE  
MONTEREY COUNTY REGIONAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the renewal of the agreement with the Monterey County Regional Fire Protection District (MCRFPD) for emergency services for a designated portion of the Monterey County Regional Fire Protection District and authorizing the City Manager to sign and execute the attached agreement for an additional period of three years.

### **DISCUSSION:**

Since 1981, the Salinas Fire Department (SFD) has provided contract fire protection to areas within the Salinas Rural Fire Protection District, now known as the MCRFPD that are adjacent to the City. The SFD responded to and provided emergency services to this area on 450 incidents during calendar year 2015. At this time, the MCRFPD is requesting that the contract be renewed for an additional period of (3) three years, commencing on July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2019. The proposed contract for this period maintains the same contract area boundaries minus the annexed Future Growth Area (FGA) of north and northeast Salinas. The proposed contract for this period also maintains the same annual rate of \$196,000 for each year of the term.

In early April, 2016, the MCRFPD approached Salinas Fire Chief Edmond Rodriguez with a proposal to extend the emergency services agreement for an additional three (3) year term and provide some financial relief based on the amount of mutual and automatic aid requests MCRFPD provides to the City on an annual basis. In 2015, the City of Salinas was provided mutual or automatic aid for fire and life safety emergencies on over 150 requests; almost every other day. A majority of these requests were provided by the MCRFPD. In contrast, SFD resources were only requested to other areas of the County approximately 50 incidents in calendar year 2015. This imbalance of mutual/automatic aid has begun to impact our neighboring fire agencies.

As the SFD utilizes mutual/automatic aid at a greater rate than our neighboring agencies, the passage of Measure G and the subsequent staffing of a 2<sup>nd</sup> ladder company in Fiscal Year 15/16 coupled with the proposed implementation of a Squad Company Program in Fiscal 16/17, these additions will help to alleviate the need for mutual/automatic aid from neighboring agencies as the SFD will have two (2) additional resources available to provide immediate emergency response services to Salinas.

Based on the impacts to the MCRFPD for their provision of mutual/automatic aid to the City of Salinas, the Fire Chief, City Manager, City Attorney and Finance Director met to discuss the terms of the agreement and provide a counter proposal to the MCRFPD which would be beneficial to both entities. The agreed upon core elements of the Agreement are as follows:

1. Contract annual rate of \$196,000 fixed for the duration of the contract.
2. Additional three (3) year term extension.
3. SFD to provide additional training to the MCRFPD in Haz/Mat Decon and live fire exercises.
4. MCRFPD will automatically provide fire resources to confirmed structure fires within their contract area to free up SFD resources as soon as practical.

As the contract area borders our community and many residents of the area shop, dine and work in Salinas, this contract for emergency services is vital to ensuring rapid fire and EMS response are continued as well as support the Monterey County Operational area mutual aid system.

#### **ISSUE:**

Shall the City Council authorize the City Manager to sign an agreement renewing a contract for emergency services with the Monterey County Regional Fire Protection District (MCRFPD) for an additional period of three (3) years?

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

There are no fiscal impacts to continuing this agreement for the next three (3) years as the City will receive the same amount of compensation as it has during previous years under the contract.

#### **TIME CONSIDERATIONS:**

Staff recommends the City Council authorize the City Manager to sign an agreement renewing a contract for emergency services with the MCRFPD for a period of three (3) years as the current agreement is set for expiration on June 30, 2016. Timely signing of this extension will ensure no gaps in the provision of emergency services occur to the contract area or on borderline incidents.

#### **ALTERNATIVES/IMPLICATIONS:**

1. The City Council may authorize the City Manager to sign an agreement renewing a contract for emergency services with the MCRFPD for an additional period of three (3) years. Staff recommends this option.
2. The City Council may not authorize the City Manager to sign an agreement renewing a contract for emergency services with the MCRFPD for an additional period of three (3) years. Staff does not recommend this option as it may delay the provision of emergency services.
3. The City Council may otherwise direct staff how to proceed.

#### **CITY COUNCIL GOALS:**

Authorizing the City Manager to sign an agreement renewing a contract for emergency services with the MCRFPD for an additional period of three (3) years supports the following City Council goals:

- Safe, livable community
- Effective Sustainable Government
- Excellent Infrastructure
- Quality of Life

## **CONCLUSIONS:**

Authorizing the City Manager to sign an agreement renewing a contract for emergency services with the MCRFPD for an additional period of three (3) years supports the Monterey County mutual aid system and offsets costs incurred by the SFD for nearby emergency response services.

Attachments:

Council Resolution  
Agreement for Emergency Fire Services