

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date:	January 26, 2015
	Agenda Item No.	34
	Roll Call No.	<u>15-0117</u>
	Communication No.	<u>15-038</u>
	Submitted by:	Douglas M. Harvey, Chief of Police

AGENDA HEADING:

Approval to adopt the Metro Interoperability Communications System (MICS) as the official method of communication during a multi-agency response per the request of the Polk County E911 Service Board.

SYNOPSIS:

The City of Des Moines has been requested by the Polk County E911 Service Board to officially adopt the National Interoperability Channels, locally known as MICS, as an official interoperability solution. The Polk County E911 Service Board has also requested that the City of Des Moines commit to using the appropriate MICS channel during a multi-agency response within the Polk County area. The MICS allows multiple public safety agencies, throughout Polk County, to communicate with each other through a shared radio communications channel.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Polk County E911 Service Board was established by Iowa State Code §34A with the purpose of enhancing 911 emergency telephone communication systems as well as other emergency 911 notification devices in order to further protect the safety and welfare of the people of Polk County. The Service Board consists of members from political subdivisions throughout Polk County who have a public safety agency providing services in the county area. The Service Board requires that all public safety agencies include dispatch centers, law enforcement, and fire, to maintain interagency communications. The Service Board is requesting all agencies throughout Polk County to adopt the National Interoperability Channels, known locally as MICS as the official method of communication during a multi-agency incident response.

The Des Moines Police Department along with the Polk County Sheriff's Office began the project of creating the MICS in 2005. The project was supported through two (2) federal grants and E911 funding. The system has been in operation for more than a year with successful reviews by participating agencies. The system creates a secured microwave based communication channel that allows multiple public safety agencies to communicate with the dispatch center as well as one another. This communication is critical for large scale emergency events in order to coordinate efforts to address the situation.

The Polk County E911 Service Board will be given documentation of the Council approved resolution as support of their request to adopt the MICS as the official method of communication during a multi-agency response.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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