



Staff Report

PROPOSED LETTER OF AGREEMENT TO CONTINUE THE PROVISION OF FIRE-RELATED SERVICES THROUGH A JPA BETWEEN THE BELMONT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AND THE CITY OF SAN CARLOS

Honorable President and Board Members:

Summary

- On Wednesday, April 12, 2006, the South County Fire Protection Authority approved the attached proposed Letter of Agreement between the Belmont Fire Protection District and the City of San Carlos to continue fire-related services through a Successor JPA between the two parties.
- The Belmont Fire Protection District is requested to consider and approve the proposed Letter of Agreement on Friday, April 21, 2006.
- The City of San Carlos has scheduled this matter for Council consideration and approval on Monday, April 24, 2006.
- Once the Letter of Agreement is approved by both entities, the Successor Joint Powers Authority Agreement will be drafted and scheduled for approval by both parties on or before June 30, 2006 to be effective July 1, 2006.

Background

The Belmont Fire Protection District Board and the San Carlos City Council commissioned a series of meetings between the agencies, utilizing the South County Fire Protection Authority Board, to explore terms and conditions of a possible rescue of the South County Fire Authority. The District Board subsequently authorized Council Members Feierbach and Warden to represent it in negotiations at South County Board meetings. At your March 28th meeting, staff presented an update regarding the negotiations. Since that time, additional meetings have taken place and resulted in a proposal by the South County "2x2" to the San Carlos City Council and Belmont Fire Protection District Board. The culmination of these negotiations is now before you in the attached proposed Letter of Agreement (LOA) which was approved by the South County Board on April 12, 2006.

Discussion

Jean Savaree, legal counsel for South County, has prepared the attached LOA incorporating the Fire Authority Commission's latest directives from their April 12 meeting.

While the LOA covers a number of topics, the areas receiving significant attention since staff's last report are as follows:

- 1) Item 1 -- Funding Formula is specifically delineated in Exhibit A to the Agreement entitled "Service Charges by JPA Partner Model" along with a timeline for the assessment as Exhibit B.
- 2) Item 6 -- Payment of Unfunded Liabilities and Item 7 -- Payment of Ongoing Costs and Effective Date of New Funding Formula are revised to include "until the due date shown on the first revenue billings generated as a result of a successful revenue measure."
- 3) Item 12 -- Limitations on Authority of Successor Joint Powers Authority requires the Successor JPA Board to obtain Belmont Fire Protection District Board and San Carlos City Council approval prior to taking final action on budget, budget amendments and labor agreements.
- 4) Item 13 -- Fire Chief and City Managers Duty to Review Major Items requires that the Fire Chief shall consult with the Belmont and San Carlos City Managers prior to presenting proposed budgets, budget amendments and labor agreements to the Successor Joint Powers Authority Board for action.
- 5) Item 15 -- Periodic Review of Successor Joint Powers Authority Agreement requires that the Belmont Fire Protection District and San Carlos City Council review the Successor JPA Agreement at least every four years.

South County Fire Board Representatives (Feierbach & Warden)

South County Fire Board members Feierbach and Warden may wish to expand upon what is in this report with comments during this meeting.

Public Contact

A copy of this report was sent to the local print media, the City of San Mateo, Firefighters Local 2400, the South County Fire Chief, the Battalion Chiefs, the Fire Marshal, and the City of San Carlos. The item was posted on the agenda as required by law. Articles have appeared in local newspapers following the South County meetings.

General Plan/Vision

N/A

Recommendation

That the Belmont Fire Protection District Board consider and approve the proposed Letter of Agreement as presented to continue the provision of fire-related services through a Successor Joint Powers Authority Agreement between the Belmont Fire Protection District and the City of San Carlos.

Attachments

- A. Letter of Agreement and Exhibits from Jean Savaree approved 4/12/06
- B. Belmont Fire Protection District Staff Report dated March 28, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen L. Cassingham
Interim District Manager

Staff Contact:

Maureen L. Cassingham, Interim District Manager
Thomas Fil, District Director of Finance
Greg Sam, Interim District Human Resources Director
650-595-7410
mcassingham@belmont.gov