

City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: 12/12/05		Item Number: <u>C-5</u>	
AGENDA ITEM: Approve a Joint Resolution of all Interagency Communications Interoperability System (ICIS) Members Declaring ICIS as a Priority Among Homeland Security and Federal Appropriations Requests.			
Contact Person/Dept.: Jeff Eastman, Fire Chief		Phone Number: (310) 253-5915	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☐ No ☒		General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☒	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒	Attachments: ☒
Public Notification: Master Notification List (12/07/05); ICIS Governance Board (12/07/05)			
Department Approval: Jeff Eastman (11/30/05)		CAO Approval: Martin Cole for Jerry Fulwood (12/5/05)	
City Controller Approval: N/A			

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council approve the joint ICIS Resolution and authorize the Mayor to sign the document declaring ICIS a priority among Homeland Security and Federal Appropriations requests.

BACKGROUND:

The Interagency Communications Interoperability System (ICIS) is a concept that allows cities using common band (UHF) communication systems to share their infrastructure to communicate with each other and their home city throughout the region. The ability to communicate with all agencies involved with incident response and recovery efforts is known as “interoperability”. Achieving interoperability is a goal every public safety agency in the nation is working to resolve.

Culver City switched from a “Conventional” radio system to a “Trunked” radio system in 2001. Trunking is a technology that optimizes airtime within a radio system by allowing users to have significantly more talkgroups (or channels) than it has actual licensed frequencies. The old system had six frequencies assigned as six channels. We now have thirty-two talkgroups using those same six frequencies. Our trunked system also allows us to connect to a region wide communication network, ICIS, under development within the Los Angeles basin.

ICIS is the next level to having every city on UHF (the same band) and using the same technology (trunking). ICIS would allow agencies that are UHF trunked to “plug in” to each other’s systems and use them as if they were their own when out of their normal “home” area.

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City Council Agenda Item Report

ICIS will provide Culver City with the following:

- The capability of radio communications with Culver City Dispatch almost anywhere in Los Angeles County. This is extremely valuable in a police pursuit and when our companies are involved in providing mutual aid to other jurisdictions.
- A back-up radio system-redundancy is very important in this age of disasters and terrorism.
- The ability to communicate with any agency on the system using the same radios at the push of a button.

On August 4, 2005, the City of Culver City entered into a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) with several other Cities in Los Angeles County in order to establish ICIS.

As a result of the City Council's appropriation of several significant grant funds, the Fire Department is currently upgrading our existing radio system per the following:

1. Equipment Upgrade at the Baldwin Hills Radio Site
2. Equipment Upgrade in the Police Department Dispatch Center
3. Equipment Upgrade at the ICIS master site located at the Glendale Civic Center
4. Flash Software Upgrade for Police and Fire Subscriber Units (portable & mobile radios)
5. Purchase mobile radios for the Fire Department

DISCUSSION:

The ICIS Governance Board has agreed that a joint resolution of City Councils from each ICIS participating agency would be most effective when seeking Federal funds. The attached resolution was developed to emphasize the concept and importance of the ICIS organization.

The City of Culver City has complete confidence in the project. The City has fully participated in both the concept and organizational governance board and committees and is currently in the process of installing infrastructure to support ICIS with recently purchased radio equipment.

ICIS needs funding to continue to increase the network to include other local and regional agencies. Federal, State and local funding is available. A united front from all the cities involved will assist ICIS to obtain the needed funds.

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City Council Agenda Item Report

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

There is no fiscal impact attached to this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution 2005-R ____

(A Joint Resolution of the Councils of the Cities of Beverly Hills, Burbank, Culver City, Glendale, Montebello, and Pomona, Declaring ICIS as a Priority Among Homeland Security and Federal Appropriation Requests.)

MOTION:

That the City Council:

1. Approve the Resolution declaring ICIS a priority among Homeland Security and Federal Appropriations requests; and
2. Authorize the Mayor to sign the Resolution.