



REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

DATE: NOVEMBER 10, 2015

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: GREG RAMIREZ, CITY MANAGER 

BY: LOUIS CELAYA, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 15-1799 CONFIRMING WITHDRAWAL FROM MEMBERSHIP IN THE LOS ANGELES REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY (LA-RICS)

On February 25, 2009, the City Council authorized participation in the Los Angeles Regional Communications System Joint Powers Authority (LA-RICS), recognizing the need for a wide-area interoperable communications system to better respond to regional crises and disaster-type events. The JPA created an authority to coordinate county-wide radio communication systems for law enforcement and fire communications. Over the years, LA-RICS has been working to establish the network, as well as prepare a funding report for LA-RICS member agencies to understand their contributions to LA-RICS. The member contributions are based on their population and geography for the proposed Land Mobile Radio (LMR) and Long Term Evolution (LTE) systems.

In May 28, 2014, the LA-RICS Governing Board adopted a funding plan projecting the member costs of continued participation in LA-RICS. The funding plan identified the member agency contributions over a seventeen-year period. After review of the funding plan, members had until November 23, 2015, to determine if participation in the LA-RICS was viable for the agency, or to elect to "Opt Out". Since the release of the funding plan, 22 cities, including three contract cities, have opted out. The neighboring communities of Hidden Hills and Westlake Village are also planning to exercise the opt out provision. During this time, the Contract Cities representative on the LA-RICS Board, has been requesting additional information on policy determinations and certainties regarding costs to be charged (or avoided altogether) to the Contract Cities to remain a member. A revised funding plan and policy determinations has not been provided, despite numerous requests.

Presently, continued participation in LA-RICS for Agoura Hills would equate to \$28,896 over the 17-year period. This projected cost could increase with additional agencies electing to opt out of LA-RICS. There could also be the potential for additional capital cost associated for the replacement of LA-RICS system equipment over time. Based on

the following factors it has been concluded that participation in LA-RICS would not be cost effective:

- The County of Los Angeles, by way of the Fire and Sheriff's Departments, is a current member in LA-RICS and will remain in the program
- The City's main form of communication during an emergency event is through the County of Los Angeles, and a law enforcement representative would be present in the City's EOC under the Incident Command System with ability to communicate in the LA-RICS System
- The City does have additional forms of emergency communication to contact the County or Law Enforcement
- Because of its size and organizational structure, the City does function in a limited capacity for public works and other services
- Certain policy determinations and certainties regarding costs for contract cities has failed to materialize

Withdrawal from LA-RICS requires notification to the JPA. The attached resolution calls for the City's withdrawal from LA-RICS and must be submitted by November 25, 2015. Should the City Council elect to withdraw from LA-RICS, the City Manager will forward the resolution to the LA-RICS JPA Board.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the City Council Adopt Resolution No. 15-1799 Confirming Withdrawal from Membership in the Los Angeles Regional Communications System Joint Powers Authority (LA-RICS).

Attachment: Resolution No. 15-1799

RESOLUTION NO. 15-1799

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AGOURA HILLS, CALIFORNIA, CONFIRMING WITHDRAWING FROM MEMBERSHIP IN THE LOS ANGELES REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY (LA-RICS)

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AGOURA HILLS HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, the City of Agoura Hills is committed to participating in regional interoperable communications platforms whose areas of coverage and operation may include its political boundaries and those of its neighbors; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System Joint Powers Authority (LA-RICS) was established in 2009 in furtherance of establishing an area-wide radio system; and

WHEREAS, on May 28, 2014, the LA RICS Governance Board adopted a funding plan, projecting the cost of continued participation in LA RICS, which the City has determined is not cost effective for the City of Agoura Hills; and

WHEREAS, the LA-RICS agreement permits withdrawal without incurring any financial liability; and

WHEREAS, the LA-RICS has requested City Council's action to withdraw from the Joint Powers Authority.

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council does hereby resolves as follows:

1. The City of Agoura Hills hereby withdraws from the LA-RICS JPA, effective November 10, 2015.
2. The City Manager is authorized and directed to notify the LA-RICS JPA of the City of Agoura Hills withdraw from LA-RICS, and directed to effectuate the intent of his Resolution.
3. The Mayor, or presiding officer, is hereby authorized to affix their signature to this Resolution signifying its adoption and the City Clerk is directed to attest thereto.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 10th day of November, 2015, by the following vote to wit:

AYES: ()
NOES: ()
ABSENT: ()
ABSTAIN: ()

Harry Schwarz, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

Kimberly M. Rodrigues, MMC, City Clerk