## **RESOLUTION NO. 2018-0039**

A resolution concerning the City's Combined Communications Center for routing of 911 calls; and reaffirming Resolution 2017-0080.

- WHEREAS, the City of Spokane currently operates the Combined Communications Center ("CCC"), providing emergency communications 911 services for regional agencies; and
- WHEREAS, the current system has been in place since 1998, and is effective in providing rapid dispatching and response for emergency response services throughout Spokane County; and
- WHEREAS, the City Council unanimously agreed, in adopting Resolution 2017-0080 (Sept. 11, 2017), that an exploration and research phase was needed to examine the existing system and to determine whether changes were appropriate; and
- WHEREAS, the City Council unanimously agreed that, "[f]ollowing the . . . research effort phase, if anticipated savings and efficiencies are not realized or anticipated in financial and operational implementation plans, the City of Spokane may elect not to proceed" with any changes to the existing emergency communications system which has served our region so well for the past two decades; and
- WHEREAS, the City Council also unanimously agreed that any changes to the existing emergency communications system framework "will not result in the direct job loss for any employee currently within the emergency communication response departments for the City of Spokane"; and
- WHEREAS, as of January 18, 2018, the governing mind-set for contemplated changes to the existing emergency communications system framework are that the "City and County will no longer be in the business of emergency communications and will no longer employ any individuals for this purpose" in direct conflict with the previously announced unanimous intent of the City Council; and
- WHEREAS, further, current emergency communication response employees are currently represented by IAFF, Local 29, but are slated to lose that represented status after they are terminated from City employment to allow for the contemplated changes to our existing emergency communications system; and
- WHEREAS, current city employees engaged in emergency communications services regularly receive specialized training; and
- WHEREAS, despite the framework for possible agreement to changes in the emergency communications system as established by Resolution 2017-0080, Spokane County recently acted unilaterally to create its own public development authority ("PDA"), which is being represented as the "new entity" for emergency communication

services, even before obtaining the agreement of the City of Spokane on the terms of a new interlocal agreement; and

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane has not agreed to make sweeping changes to our emergency communications system along the lines of the currently contemplated framework, without first establishing guarantees to existing city employees of position, seniority, shift preferences, specialized training, compensation, benefits and representation; and

WHEREAS, any changes of the emergency communications system should result in improved response times in addition to the employee guarantees and cost savings, system-wide; and

WHEREAS, although the City of Spokane is the driver for the vast majority of calls received by the CCC, the City would have the minority of seats on the board of the proposed PDA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Spokane City Council reaffirms its unanimous approval of Resolution 2017-0080 (Sept. 11, 2017), by which the Council determined that it would require substantial evidence that "anticipated savings and efficiencies are realized or anticipated in financial and operational implementation plans" concerning any changes to the existing emergency communications system, proof that no direct job losses for any City employees in the affected department(s) will occur, and that the health, safety, and welfare of Spokane's residents will be bettered due to improved responsiveness by police, fire, and ambulance services.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the City Council will not consider joining a new emergency communications system until written guarantees are provided to all impacted employees concerning their: job positions, seniority status, shift preferences, specialized training, compensation level and framework, benefits, and bargaining unit representation status.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Spokane desires that its representation on the board of the proposed PDA be in direct proportion to the number of calls for service received by the CCC which originate in Spokane.

Passed by the City Council this 4 day of May, 2018.

Levi Leffette

Approved as to form:

Assistant City Attorney

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WHEREAS, the current system has been in place since 1998, and is effective in providing rapid dispatching and response for emergency response services throughout Spokane County; and

WHEREAS, the interlocal agreement for the CCC expired on December 31, 2016, and no new agreement has been signed to date; and

WHEREAS, the City Council unanimously agreed, in adopting Resolution 2017-0080 (Sept. 11, 2017), that an exploration and research phase was needed to examine the existing system and to determine whether changes were appropriate; and

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Passed by the City Council this	day of	, 2018.
	City Clerk	

Approved as to form:		
Assistant City Attorney		