

Staff Report

Community Services Department

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REPORT TO: Special Council

DATE OF MEETING: November 20, 2023

SUBMITTED BY: Robert Gilmore, Fire Chief 519-741- 2200 ext. 5501

PREPARED BY: Robert Gilmore, Fire Chief 519-741- 2200 ext. 5501

WARD(S) INVOLVED: All

DATE OF REPORT: November 16, 2021

REPORT NO.: CSD-2023-522

SUBJECT: Execution of Agreement pertaining to the Fire Department's use of the Regional Voice Radio Communications System

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Fire Chief be authorized to execute the agreement with The Regional Municipality of Waterloo Police Services Board, The Regional Municipality of Waterloo and various municipalities in the Region of Waterloo pertaining to the System Infrastructure and access to a related radio communications system; said agreement to be to the satisfaction of the City Solicitor, as outlined in Community Services Department report CSD-2023-522

BACKGROUND:

Due to the legacy regional radio system reaching end of life, the Voice Radio System Replacement Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued by the Region of Waterloo to the prequalified proponents in July 2016 with completion of the project and user migration by the end of 2018. In June 2017, Council approved the purchase of new user gear for the P25 Voice Radio System (Report # FCS-17-122). The report included radios for both Fire and Bylaw.

In September 2019, Waterloo Region Police Services (WRPS) presented Kitchener Fire Department (KFD) and all user gear subscribers a charge back model which is to be implemented to fund operations of the Regional P25 radio system. Kitchener's cutover to the new P25 system occurred mid April 2020. The current budget in 2023 is \$120,000 for infrastructure and \$33,250 for the 109 radios that the fire department has activated on the system. These radios include the base radios in both of our dispatch centers and the radios used in the field.

REPORT:

The Regional Municipality of Waterloo has completed the project phase of the construction and installation of the new P25 radio system and is transferring the operations and maintenance to the Waterloo Regional Police Service. To this end, there is a user agreement that is to be

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executed. This requires all of the municipalities and townships to sign off on the terms and conditions of the agreement. Since the Fire Department is the largest stakeholder and dispatches for all of the regional Fire Departments, the Fire Chief regularly reviews the costs and projected budgets for the use of the radio system.

ALIGNMENT WITH CITY OF KITCHENER STRATEGIC PLAN:

The recommendation outlined in this report supports the achievement of the City's strategic vision through the delivery of core service.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

INFORM – This report will be posted on the City's website in advance of the Council meeting.

PREVIOUS REPORTS/AUTHORITIES:

There are no previous reports/authorities related to this matter.

ACKNOWLEDGED BY: Michael May, DCAO