

Memorandum



Date: March 4, 2011
To: Members of the Public Safety Committee
Subject: Dallas County Mutual Aid Agreement

There are 29 governmental agencies that participate in the 1984 Agreement for Mutual Aid in Disaster Assistance. The agreement has served the citizens of those 29 agencies well since inception. After the events of September 11, 2001, the Dallas County Fire Chief's Association began to review the 1984 agreement and found that it was in need of updating.

A revised agreement has been formulated and addresses issues such as the requirement that all jurisdictions adopt and operate under the National Incident Management System (NIMS), updating the legal references, defining and acknowledging other services provided by the area departments such as Hazardous Materials response, and the FEMA policy on monetary reimbursement as a result of a Presidential declared disaster.

These all became factors in the decision to draft a new agreement. This agreement has been approved by the membership of the Dallas County Fire Chief's Association and reviewed by the City Attorney's Office. Each governmental agency is responsible, independently, for approval the agreement, at which time it will be adopted by the Dallas County Fire Chief's Association and replace the 1984 agreement. Thus far, 20 of the 29 Cities have approved the agreement.

Authorization to accept the Dallas County Mutual Aid Agreement is scheduled for formal Council Action on April 13, 2011.



Ryan S. Evans
First Assistant City Manager