

RESOLUTION NO. 20220728-006

WHEREAS, numerous individual governmental entities in Austin-Travis County have come together as either partners or associate members of the Greater Austin-Travis County Regional Radio System (GATRRS) for the purpose of utilizing a common P25 digital trunked radio system platform to promote both communications operability and interoperability of public safety and public service agency daily and emergency operations; and

WHEREAS, on November 3, 2020, in a bond election, the voters approved an expenditure of \$7.1 billion for Project Connect – intended to expand the city’s rapid bus line system, add two new light rail lines (from north to south and to the airport), and lead to construction of a multi-block underground tunnel downtown; and

WHEREAS, the public safety and public service agencies using the GATRRS communications system are becoming increasingly inter-dependent, and would benefit from regional integration and shared information with public transit bus and rail operations; and

WHEREAS, Council believes it is time to start planning and developing with other government entities a unified public safety/public services/transit and transportation wireless communications system for the Greater Austin-Travis County area; and

WHEREAS, such a unified public safety, public service, transit and transportation wireless communications system could include 9-1-1 operations, computer-aided dispatch, mobile data information transfer, intelligent transportation management, and public safety, public service, transit and transportation radio communications; and

WHEREAS, a cooperative effort between area governmental entities is necessary to facilitate financing, planning, and development of such a project;
NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The Council is interested in cooperating with other participating governments to plan and develop a unified public safety, public service, traffic and transportation wireless communication system along with other communication technologies, and will pursue this goal with other participating government entities so that benefits and costs can be equitably shared.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is hereby directed to assign appropriate staff to cooperate with staff assigned by other governmental entities to meet and develop plans for a unified public safety, public service, traffic and transportation communication system.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is hereby directed to seek and apply for funding from whatever source of funds may be available for cooperative intergovernmental projects furthering a unified Austin-area public safety, public service, traffic and transportation communication system, including federal, state, local or private grant funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to bring back to the Council the necessary information and items for policymaking and decisions necessary to implement such initiatives.

ADOPTED: July 28, 2022

ATTEST:



Myrna Rios
City Clerk