



Item No. 10 Town of Atherton

CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT – CONSENT AGENDA

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: GEORGE RODERICKS, CITY MANAGER

DATE: JULY 21, 2021

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF SECOND REVISED AND RESTATED JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT SAN MATEO COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA EMERGENCY SERVICES ORGANIZATION; AND AUTHORIZATION FOR SIGNATURE

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council approve the 2nd Revised and Restated Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement San Mateo County Operational Area Emergency Services Organization; and authorize the City Manager to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Town.

BACKGROUND | ANALYSIS

The Town is a member of the San Mateo County Operational Area Emergency Services Organization and has been since 1963, previously under the Master Mutual Aid Agreement. The JPA operates pursuant to Presidential Directive 5, the National Response Framework, National Incident Management System (NIMS), Presidential Directive 8, the National Preparedness Goal and California's Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and local adopted Emergency Operations Plans and Annexes. The collective goal of the member agencies via the Organization is to provide coordinated plans for the protection of persons and property based on the phases of emergency management.

The Emergency Services Council is the governing body for the JPA. On June 17, 2021, the Emergency Services Council met and approved by unanimous vote of all members present the 2nd Revision of the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement that governs the Emergency Services Council of San Mateo County and the Department of Emergency Management.

The primary purpose of the 2nd Revised and Restated JPA is to address the moving of the Office of Emergency Services from the County Sheriff's Office to the County Manager's Office. In addition, there is a rebranding to the Department of Emergency Management versus Office of Emergency Services. Lastly, the amended agreement removed a section on common terminology instead relying upon NIMS directives for continued compliance.

Councilmember Widmer was present as the Town's representative on the Emergency Services Council at the April 2021 meeting where the bulk of discussion around the amended agreement occurred.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

POLICY FOCUS

The Town is currently a member of the Emergency Services Council via the existing Joint Powers Agreement. There are no significant policy issues.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notification was achieved by posting the agenda, with this agenda item being listed, at least 72 hours prior to the meeting in print and electronically. Information about the project is also disseminated via the Town's electronic News Flash and Atherton Online. There are approximately 1,200 subscribers to the Town's electronic News Flash publications. Subscribers include residents as well as stakeholders – to include, but be not limited to, media outlets, school districts, Menlo Park Fire District, service providers (water, power, and sewer), and regional elected officials.

COMMISSION/COMMITTEE FEEDBACK/REFERRAL

This item ___ has or X has not been before a Town Committee or Commission.

- Audit/Finance Committee (meets every other month)
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee (meets as needed)
- Environmental Programs Committee (meets every other month)
- Park and Recreation Committee (meets each month)
- Planning Commission (meets each month)
- Rail Committee (meets every other month)
- Transportation Committee (meets every other month)

ATTACHMENTS

None.

**Second Revised and Restated
Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement
San Mateo County Operational Area Emergency Services Organization**

THIS JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT (“Agreement”) is made as of the Effective Date by and between the public entities set forth below, creating the San Mateo County Operational Area Emergency Services Organization Authority (“Organization”).

Each public entity executing this Agreement shall be referred to individually as a “Member Agency,” with all referred to collectively as “Member Agencies.”

RECITALS

Whereas the Member Agencies’ goal is to establish a unified emergency services organization; and

Whereas the Member Agencies agree that the purpose of this Organization will be to operate pursuant to Presidential Directive 5, the National Response Framework, National Incident Management System (NIMS), Presidential Directive 8, the National Preparedness Goal and California’s Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and local adopted Emergency Operations Plans and Annexes.

Whereas the Member Agencies agree that the participants within this Organization may include all local governments within the geographic area of the County, special districts, unincorporated areas, and participating non-governmental entities; and

Whereas the Member Agencies agree that the collective goal is to provide coordinated plans for the protection of persons and property based on the phases of emergency management; and

Whereas the Member Agencies have the authority to enter into this Agreement under the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, California Government Code Section 6500 *et seq.* (“Act”).

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the recitals and mutual obligations of the Member Agencies as herein contained, the Member Agencies agree as follows:

Article I - GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.01 Purpose

This Agreement creates an entity to exercise the powers shared in common by the Member Agencies to engage in local and regional cooperative planning and coordination and delivery of incident and event supporting services. As part of this Organization’s purpose, Member Agencies seek to meet or exceed the current standard of service in Emergency Response Planning and Management Capabilities within the Operational Area. Further, Member Agencies seek to support the regional Public Information and Notification Systems, and to support the regional hazardous materials emergency response program. Such purposes are to be accomplished and the Members Agencies’ common powers exercised as set forth in this Agreement.

1.02 Creation of Authority

Pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, the Member Agencies hereby reaffirm creation of a public entity to be known as the “San Mateo County Operational Area Emergency Services Organization Authority” (“Organization.”) The Organization shall be a public entity separate and apart from the Member Agencies. The geographic jurisdiction of the Organization is all territory within the geographic boundaries of the Member Agencies; however, the Organization may undertake any action outside those geographic boundaries as is necessary and incidental to accomplishing its purpose.

1.03 Membership in the Organization

Membership in the Organization is limited to public entities, as defined by the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, located or operating within San Mateo County that have approved and executed this Agreement, and contributed resources of any kind toward establishing and supporting the Organization (including, but not limited to financial, personnel, equipment, or other resources) as approved by the Emergency Services Council.

1.04 Participating Members/Partners in the Organization

Participation in the Organization is intended to ensure cooperative emergency planning and response; all participating Member Agencies and partners are expected to attend all regular and special meetings of the Emergency Services Council, encourage active participation by their jurisdictions in the development of plans and training programs, drills, exercises and training opportunities, and otherwise assist in supporting the implementation of this Agreement.

1.05 Powers of the Organization

The Organization may purchase, lease, own and/or dispose of property and equipment and enter into contract(s), as required to satisfy the purposes of this Agreement. The Organization may employ agents and/or employees, operate works and improvements, sue and be sued in its own name, and invest surplus funds.

Article II – GOVERNANCE

2.01 Composition of the Council

The Organization shall be administered by the Emergency Services Council (“Council”) consisting of the following members:

- a) A member of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, who shall be designated by the Supervisors.
- b) Each governing body of a Member Agency shall annually select and appoint a representative to serve on the Council and may select and appoint an alternate representative. Each representative and alternative representative must be a member of the governing body of the Member Agency.
- c) The Chair of the Emergency Services Council shall be the representative from the Board of Supervisors.
- d) A Vice-Chair shall be selected by the Council.

2.02 General Purpose of the Organization

The general purpose of the Organization is to:

- a) Provide structure for administrative and fiscal policies and procedures;
- b) Identify and pursue funding sources;
- c) Set policy;
- d) Maximize the utilization of available resources; and
- e) Oversee all committee activities.

2.03 Specific Responsibilities of the Council

The specific responsibilities of the Council shall be as follows:

- a) To review and recommend adoption by the Board of Supervisors and City Councils of each City, Emergency Plans, programs and agreements, in addition to the basic agreements as deemed necessary to carry out the purpose of the Organization.
- b) To approve an annual budget in an amount necessary to carry out the purposes of the Organization. Upon review and approval of the annual budget by the Council, each Member Agency shall recommend the budget to the governing body of the Member Agency for the purpose of securing from each the appropriations in accordance with each Member Agency’s identified allocation (via Budget Sheets.)
- c) Each Member Agency’s Executive Officer shall identify and designate at the beginning of each fiscal year, a local coordinator for regular participation in the San Mateo County Emergency Managers Association. Should the identified Coordinator change at any time during the year, the Member Agency shall advise the Director of Emergency Management within 30 days.
- d) If a Member Agency participates in a contract relationship for the provision of emergency services, it is still required to name a local emergency coordinator to the Emergency Managers Association who will assure the continuity of communication between the Member Agency, the San Mateo County Department of Emergency Management (DEM) and the Organization.

2.04 Meetings of the Organization.

- a) **Regular Meetings:** The Council shall approve a schedule for its regular meetings provided, however, that the Council shall hold at least one regular meeting quarterly. The Council shall fix the date, hour and location of regular meetings by resolution and the Secretary shall transmit a copy of the resolution to each Member Agency at the first meeting of the fiscal year.
- b) **Special Meetings:** Special meetings of the Council may be called in accordance with the Brown Act by the Chair, a majority of the Council or the Director.
- c) **Call, Notice and Conduct of Meetings:** All meetings of the Council, including without limitation, regular, adjourned regular and special meetings, shall be noticed, held and conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act, California Government Code section 54950 *et seq.* As soon as practicable, but no later than the time of posting, the Secretary shall provide notice and the agenda to each Member Agency. Any Member Agency may request that an item be considered for placement on the Agenda by submitting the request to the Director of Emergency Management.

- d) Meetings of the Council shall be conducted by the Chair or by the Vice-Chair in the absence of the Chairperson. In the absence of both Chair and Vice-Chair, the meeting shall be chaired by member of the Council selected by a majority vote of the Council.

2.05 Minutes

The Secretary of the Organization shall cause to be kept a digital recording of each meeting, which shall be posted on the San Mateo County Department of Emergency Management Website. The Secretary will create brief summary written minutes for approval by the Council.

2.06 Voting

All power of the Organization shall reside with the Council. Each Member Agency shall have one vote. A Member Agency’s alternate representative may participate and vote in the proceedings of the Council only in the absence of that Member Agency’s regular representative. No absentee ballot or proxy voting is permitted.

2.07 Quorum; Required Votes; Approvals

A quorum of the Council is a majority of the representatives of the Member Agencies of the Organization. If the number of Member Agencies is an even number, a majority is fifty percent of the Member Agencies, plus one. The Council may not take any substantive action without a majority of the Member Agencies voting to take that action. Action on non-substantive procedural matters may be taken by a majority of a quorum.

Article III – PARTICIPATING PARTNERS, EMPLOYEES AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES

3.01 Participating Partners

In order to ensure cooperative emergency planning and response, the following may be invited to attend, as non-voting members, all regular and special meetings of the Council, participate in the development of plans and training programs, and otherwise assist in supporting the implementation of this Agreement:

- a) One representative of the American Red Cross may be invited by the Chair with the approval of the Council.
- b) One representative each from the San Mateo County Fire Chiefs Association and the San Mateo County Police Chiefs and Sheriff Association as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.
- c) One representative for Water Districts as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.
- d) One representative for Sanitary Districts as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.
- e) One representative for the San Mateo County Harbor District as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.
- f) One representative for the Port Authority as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.
- g) One representative for San Mateo County Transit District as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.

- h) One representative for Pacific, Gas and Electric Company as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.
- i) One representative for the Office of Education as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.
- j) One representative for the Hospital Consortium as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.
- k) One representative for the EMS Agency as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.
- l) One representative for the San Mateo Emergency Managers Association as may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.

Should other interested parties be identified for participation, the Organization shall consider a written request for participation and may be invited by the Chair with approval of the Council.

3.02 Treasurer

The Treasurer of the County of San Mateo shall be the Treasurer of the Organization. The Treasurer shall be the depository, shall have custody of the accounts, funds and money of the Organization from whatever source, and shall have the duties and obligations set forth in the Joint Exercise of Powers Act.

3.03 Auditor and Financial Accountability

The Organization will ensure financial accountability as required by Section 6505 of the Government Code. The Organization will ensure that audits are conducted as required by that Section. Unless the Council votes to appoint a separate auditor, audits will be conducted in accordance with existing County policy, and by the auditor selected by the Office of the County Manager. In the event that the Council selects a separate auditor, the full cost of the audit will be the responsibility of the Organization.

The Auditor shall perform the functions of auditor for the Organization and shall make or cause an independent annual audit of the accounts and records of the Organization by a certified public accountant, in compliance with the requirements of the Joint Exercise of Powers Act and generally accepted auditing standards.

3.04 Legal Counsel

The San Mateo County Counsel's Office shall be the legal counsel for the Organization. To the extent permitted by the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, the Organization may change, by resolution, the legal counsel to the Organization. The full cost of outside legal counsel will be the responsibility of the Organization.

3.05 Secretary to the Organization

The San Mateo County Department of Emergency Management shall provide a Secretary and administrative support to the Organization.

3.06 Contractors

The Organization shall have the power by resolution to appoint and employ such other consultants and independent contractors as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the Organization. The Organization will be responsible for any/all incurred costs.

3.07 Committees

The Organization may form and dissolve Committees as determined by the Council.

3.08 Director of Emergency Management

The County Manager or his/her designee is the Director of the San Mateo County Department of Emergency Management (“Director”). The SMC DEM is responsible for the on-going operation of the San Mateo County Operational Area and is also responsible for achieving the purposes of the Organization as follows:

- a) Emergency Response Support - coordination and planning during any regional emergency in accordance with adopted emergency plans.
- b) Emergency Plans - preparation, development, coordination, and integration of compatible and complimentary unified area-wide emergency plans for approval by the State of California and adoption by the Council.
- c) Communications - coordination, development and maintenance of an area-wide emergency communications service, including public alert and warning systems, and other situational awareness tools.
- d) Public Education and Information - coordination and support of an area-wide public education and information program.
- e) Training and Exercise -coordination and assistance in the training and exercising of all County employees identified as Disaster Service Workers, as defined by Sect. 3100 of the California Government Code and volunteers. The Member Agencies will be responsible for the training and exercise of their identified employees; however, DEM will provide needed support as requested.
- f) Grant Program Administration - coordination and assistance with designated emergency coordinators within the Operational Area in the securing and distribution of grant funds for regional emergency management initiatives and program support.
- g) General Administration - coordination and assistance in the procurement and inventory of emergency equipment, management of, maintenance and distribution of area-wide inventories of vital supplies and equipment.
- h) The Organization does not intend to acquire title to any property. But in the event that it does, pursuant to Section 6505.1 of the Government Code, the Organization designates the Director to handle that property. In the event that the Organization does acquire title to property, the Director will obtain a bond in the amount determined by the contracting parties.

3.09 Staffing Reimbursement

The County Department of Emergency Management is a division of the County Manager’s Office, staffed by employees of the County of San Mateo. The DEM supports the purposes of the Organization. A portion of the cost of DEM staff is reimbursed by the Organization in an amount determined by the funding allocation in this Agreement.

Article IV – BUDGET AND COST-SHARING

In consideration of the mutual promises herein contained, it is hereby agreed that the cost of maintaining the Organization will be shared as described below.

- a) From the total amount of the annual budget there shall be deducted estimated revenue from federal “matching funds,” state grants, and other service revenues.

- b) The balance of the annual budget remaining after anticipated revenues have been deducted shall be paid as follows:
 - 1. The county shall pay 50% of the remaining balance.
 - 2. The cities shall pay the remaining 50% of the balance, apportioned in accordance with the following formula:
 - i. One half of said 50% to be apportioned by people units or population.
 - a) Total population of all member cities divided into one-half of the total of the cities' share of the budget equals a factor in cents.
 - b) Population of each member city times the factor in cents equals the share for each city.
 - ii. The remaining one-half of said 50% to be apportioned on the basis of assessed valuation as follows:
 - a) Total assessed value of real and personal property in all member cities divided into one-half of the total of the city's share of the budget equals a factor in mils.
 - b) Assessed value of real and personal property of each member city times the factor in mils equals the share for each city.
- c) For the purpose of this Agreement the total assessed valuation of real and personal property in all Member Agencies shall be the most recent such total maintained by the offices of the County Assessor.
- d) The figures used for population in each city shall be determined by a method and from a source that is mutually acceptable to the majority of members.
- e) It is understood and agreed that the financial obligations incurred by the Member Agencies under the provisions of this Agreement will be incurred annually, subject to the limitation that the county and cities are financially able to make funds available.
- f) If the Member Agencies representing 25% or more of the county's population do not approve the budget in any fiscal year, the proposed budget will be referred back to the Director and a finance committee for revision and recommendation. If no resolution can be reached by the committee, the Member Agencies may proceed to adopt budgets that provide those services they deem necessary for adequate emergency services protection as a whole, but any Member Agency shall be financially responsible for that portion of the budget unilaterally adopted. Any Member Agency that does not meet its financial commitment under the adopted budget will lose its voting status and/or other such privileges of membership as determined by the Council.
- g) It is further agreed that any excess in federal or state funds, in any year, shall be reviewed by a finance committee, who will then make a recommendation to the Council, as to the disposition of the excess funds.
- h) With respect any Member Agency that is not a City or the County, the amount to be contributed is determined by a negotiation between those Member Agencies and the Director of Emergency Management and must be approved by the Council. A letter memorializing the agreed contribution will be an attachment to this Agreement.

Article V - INSURANCE

- a) The County shall add the Organization and Emergency Services Council to its existing excess liability insurance coverage and shall maintain such coverage in full force and effect during the life of the Agreement. Member Agencies understand that the County is partially

self-insured. Unless the Organization decides otherwise, County shall provide for the defense of any claims or litigation within the self-insured retention. Legal representation by the County will ordinarily be provided by the County Counsel.

- b) Any out-of-pocket expense or loss, by way of judgment or settlement, arising out of the operation of this Agreement, within the limits of the County’s self-insured retention shall be shared by the parties in accordance with the formula as described in Article V (b).

Article VI - EFFECTIVENESS

This Agreement shall be effective upon its execution by all Member Agencies. It is effective as to new Members Agencies upon adoption and approval by the Council and by the new Member Agency’s governing body. This Agreement shall continue in effect until terminated as provided herein.

Article VII – TERM AND TERMINATION

7.01 Withdrawal by Members

- a) Any Member Agency may withdraw from this Agreement by written notice given by such Member Agency to all other Member Agencies, which notice shall be given at least 120 days prior to the commencement of the fiscal year in which it is to take effect. For the purpose of such notice, a fiscal year is defined as July 1 of a calendar year through June 30 of the succeeding calendar year.
- b) Any former or prospective Member Agency may enter or re-enter the organization by petition to the Council by its governing body, and majority approval of the petition by the Council. Upon approval, the new Member Agency must agree in writing to all terms of this Agreement.
- c) Should a Member Agency withdraw less than 120 days prior to the commencement of the fiscal year, the withdrawal will be effective, but that Member Agency will be responsible for its calculated contribution for that year pursuant to Article V.
- d) Should a Member Agency give required notice and withdraw from the Agreement, the prior contribution of that Member Agency will be divided equally by formula among the remaining Member Agencies.

7.02 Termination of Organization and Disposition of Surplus Money and Property

This Agreement shall terminate effective upon a vote of the Council, the County and by at least eleven (11) cities representing the majority of the population of the County. In the event that the Organization ceases to exist, surplus funds will be returned consistent with Section 6512 of the Government Code in proportion to the contributions made. The Organization does not intend to acquire title to any property. But in the event that it does, title to all property acquired by the Organization, shall be owned by the County of San Mateo to be used for “County Wide” purposes.

7.03 Amendments

Any proposed Amendments to this Agreement may be recommended by the Council but must be ratified by each Member Agency’s governing body.

7.04 Bylaws

The Council may, from time to time, adopt and/or amend Bylaws for the conduct of its affairs; provided the purpose is consistent with this Agreement and/or are necessary and appropriate.

Article VIII - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

8.01 Notices

It shall be the responsibility of the County Manager or his/her designee to ensure all notices are provided to Member Agencies and posted in compliance with the legal requirements of the Agreement.

8.02 Severability

If any one or more of the terms, provisions, promises, covenants, or conditions of this Agreement were, to any extent, adjudged invalid, unenforceable, void, or voidable for any reason whatsoever by a court of competent jurisdiction, each and all of the remaining terms, provisions, promises, covenants, and conditions of this Agreement shall not be affected thereby and shall be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

8.03 Supersession

It is mutually understood and agreed by the Member Agencies that this Agreement supersedes the 2014 San Mateo County Operational Area Joint Powers Agreement, any previous agreements on this subject matter and any amendments thereto.

8.04 Assignment

No Member Agency shall assign any rights or obligations under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the Council.

8.05 Governing Law

This Agreement is made and to be performed in the State of California, and as such, California substantive and procedural law shall apply. Venue for any litigation under this Agreement shall be in the County of San Mateo.

8.06 Headings

The section headings herein are for convenience only and are not to be construed as modifying or governing the language of this Agreement.

8.07 Counterparts

This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original and all of which shall constitute this Agreement.

8.08 No Third Party Beneficiaries

This Agreement and the obligations hereunder are not intended to benefit any party other than the Authority and its Members Agencies, except as expressly provided otherwise herein. No entity that is not a signatory to this Agreement shall have any rights or causes of action against any party to this Agreement as a result of that party's performance or non-performance under this Agreement, except as expressly provided otherwise herein.

8.09 Filing of Notice of Agreement

Within 30 days after the Effective Date, the Secretary shall cause to be filed with the Secretary of State the notice of Agreement required by the Act. Within 30 days after any amendment to this Agreement, the Secretary shall file the amendment with the Secretary of State.

8.10 Conflict of Interest Code

The Organization has adopted a conflict of interest code as required by law. Member Agencies understand that representatives and alternate representatives are listed on the Organization's Conflict of Interest Code and will be responsible for filing a Form 700 with the Organization.

8.11 Indemnification

The Organization shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless each Member Agency (and each Member Agency's officers, agents, and employees) from any and all liability, including but not limited to claims, losses, suits, injuries, damages, costs and expenses (including attorney's fees,) arising from or as a result of any acts, errors or omissions of the Organization or its officers, agents or employees.

Each Member Agency shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the other Member Agencies (and their officers, agents, and employees) from any and all liability, including but not limited to claims, losses, suits, injuries, damages, costs and expenses (including attorney's fees,) arising from or as a result of any acts, errors or omissions of that party or its officers, agents or employees.

8.12 Dispute Resolution/Legal Proceedings

Disputes regarding the interpretation or application of any provision of this Agreement shall, to the extent reasonably feasible, be resolved through good faith negotiations between the Member Agencies and/or the Organization.

8.13 Authorization to Enter Into Agreement

Each party warrants that the person signing this Agreement on its behalf is authorized to bind that party to this Agreement.

8.14 Confirmation of Jurisdictional Authority

By signing this Agreement, the Member Agencies retain all authority granted to them by the State and/or their respective Charters. The powers and/or authority granted pursuant to this Agreement shall in no way serve to limit or restrict an individual Member Agency's jurisdictional authority.

(SIGNATURES ARE ON FOLLOWING PAGE)

ATTACHMENT 1

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each Member Agency has caused this Agreement to be executed and attested by its proper officers thereunto duly authorized, as follows:

Signatories	Resolution/Action Number	Date of Adoption
Atherton		
Belmont		
Brisbane		
Burlingame		
Colma		
Daly City		
East Palo Alto		
Foster City		
Half Moon Bay		
Hillsborough		
Menlo Park		
Millbrae		
Pacifica		
Portola Valley		
Redwood City		
San Bruno		
San Carlos		
San Mateo		
South San Francisco		
Woodside		
County of San Mateo		