

A RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF A CO-LOCATED COUNTYWIDE DISPATCH CENTER FOR THE GREENVILLE COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE, GREENVILLE COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, LOCAL FIRE DISTRICTS, AND MUNICIPAL FIRE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES TO PROMOTE OPERATIONAL AND FINANCIAL EFFICIENCIES FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF GREENVILLE COUNTY CITIZENS.

WHEREAS, in 2012 Greenville County (“County”) commissioned a Joint Operations Assessment, Feasibility, and Recommendations study by nationally recognized industry expert L.R. Kimball noting many specific benefits to a co-located Countywide dispatch center including improved situational awareness, interoperability, and cost efficiencies through sharing technical support, systems, network infrastructure, and equipment; and

WHEREAS, the County has invested in a new singular Computer Automated Dispatch (CAD) system allowing all participating entities to receive call information instantaneously which is vital for the safety and response protocols of an integrated first-responder response plan, and has also invested in a new Countywide Palmetto 800 interoperable radio system which allows County, City, Fire District, State, and Federal agencies to communicate with each other on shared channels, expanding public safety communications to unprecedented levels across the County; and

WHEREAS, call transfer times are sometimes negatively impacted by operation of seven primary Public-Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) and one secondary PSAP across the County; and

WHEREAS, many local entities in South Carolina and across the nation have found significant operational and financial efficiencies via co-located dispatch, and the Greenville County Sheriff and the Greenville County Fire Chief’s Association have expressed support for a co-located dispatch center; and

WHEREAS, the County will undertake a new dispatch center in conjunction with the relocation of GCEMS headquarters and the timing is ripe to incorporate a co-located facility with current technological capabilities and appropriate redundancies at the design phase of construction.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that Greenville County Council supports the consideration and efforts to co-locate countywide dispatch services in the future GCEMS headquarters to include dispatch for the Sheriff’s Office, Emergency Medical Services, local fire districts, and municipal fire and law enforcement.

DONE IN REGULAR MEETING THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2020.

Herman G. Kirven, Jr., Chairman
Greenville County Council

ATTEST:

Regina McCaskill
Clerk to Council

Joseph M. Kernell
County Administrator