



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**  
Inter-Departmental Correspondence  
Sheriff's Office



**Date:** January 20, 2015  
**Board Meeting Date:** February 24, 2015  
**Special Notice / Hearing:** None  
**Vote Required:** Majority

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**From:** Greg Munks, Sheriff

**Subject:** Amended San Mateo County Operational Area Joint Powers Agreement

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a resolution authorizing the approval of the amended Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement of the San Mateo County Operational Area Emergency Services Organization.

**BACKGROUND:**

All multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional responses to emergencies in California are required to use the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS). In addition, local government entities must use SEMS in order to be eligible for a reimbursement of response-related costs under the state's disaster assistance programs.

Local government is one of the five response levels within the Standardized Emergency Management System. The basic role of local government is to manage and coordinate the overall emergency response and recovery activities within its jurisdiction. The next level is the Operational Area, which consists of a County and all political subdivisions within the County boundary.

Over 30 years ago, San Mateo County cities and towns, and the County of San Mateo decided to manage the San Mateo County Operational Area (SMCOA) through a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) that established the San Mateo Operational Area Emergency Services Organization and outlined the operational structure of and funding formula for the SMCOA. The SMCOA is governed by the Emergency Services Council which is made up of one representative from each City/Town Council and one representative from the County Board of Supervisors.

**DISCUSSION:**

The most recent version of the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) was entered into in 1997. In January 2013, the Emergency Services Council directed staff to review and revise

the JPA. This revision was required due to changes in the Homeland Security and Emergency Services field that occurred since September 11, 2001. The Agreement that governs how San Mateo County provides Emergency Services needed to reflect current laws, rules, directives, orders, and trends. The Emergency Services Council requested that the budget process and funding formula not be revised.

The document has been revised in a format that is consistent with other Joint Powers Agreements in the state of California. Recitals have been added to provide clear explanation of the mission of the Emergency Services Council. Definitions have been updated to reflect current language used in the provision of Emergency Services and Homeland Security prevention, protection, response, and recovery.

The amended 2015 JPA has been updated and divided into two sections, (Legal Requirements) outlining the specific legal agreement that binds the JPA and a second section (Supplemental Agreement) which describes what the cities agreed upon in regards to common training and exercises.

Specific responsibilities of Member Agencies have been added to include the designation of a person or persons to participate in the Emergency Managers Association meetings and activities (staff level participant). Additional non-voting participating partners to the Emergency Services Council have been updated in the amendment.

The amended 2015 JPA has been vetted and approved by the San Mateo County Police Chiefs, Fire Chiefs, City/Town Managers, and legal counsel as appropriate, as well as the County Emergency Managers Association.

All cities and towns within San Mateo County have formally adopted the amended 2015 JPA via the resolution process.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the Resolution and agreement as to form.

The amended 2015 JPA contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Collaborative Community by the cooperation between the cities, towns, and County to meet or exceed the current response planning and management capabilities within the Operational Area.

**PERFORMANCE MEASURES:**

Measure	FY 2013-14 Actual	FY 2014-15 Projected
Number of incidents responded to by OES Staff	24	26
Percent of emergency incidents responded to within one hour	100	100

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The budget and funding formula remain the same. There is no Net County Cost associated with the amended 2015 JPA.