

July 24, 2015

Honorable Judge Keith Self and
Collin County Commissioners
2300 Bloomdale Rd, Suite 4192
McKinney, TX 75071

Re: Dispatching Services for Municipalities of Collin County

Dear Judge Self and County Commissioners:

Recently municipalities whose police agencies are currently dispatched by the Collin County Sheriff's department were given information from the Sheriff's Office that they were considering not providing dispatching service to municipalities past 2019. The new FY2016 agreement for dispatching services that has been provided to municipalities for action, also states that dispatching service would be discontinued after 2019. As you can imagine this has caused great concern among the City Councils, managers, and also police and fire departments in these communities.

On July 15, 2015 the City Managers representing the affected cities met with Sheriff Box to discuss the recent developments regarding the continuation of dispatching services for the police departments that are currently dispatched through Collin County. Sheriff Box stated that his main concern was the space needed for the expansion that would be required to support the added consoles and dispatchers in the future. Outside of that, he indicated that he was in support of continuing the dispatching services for the municipalities including the police and fire departments.

In order to keep from duplicating resources that are paid by the County and City taxpayers, it would be prudent to investigate the costs associated with the dispatching needs of the region. In addition, without a regional dispatching center, the system would become very fragmented, to the point that some agencies may not be able to talk to each other without transferring through other dispatches. This would be in direct conflict with the concept of interoperability, and may disqualify agencies from acquiring grant funding from Federal resources.

The undersigned Mayors support the concept of the current regional dispatch service provided through the Sheriff's office and recognize that costs for the program would need to increase in the future. We would support a fair and reasonable increase and we request that the Court, in concert with the Sheriff, continue to include the undersigned municipalities in the

planning for the dispatch program. We specifically request that the Court proceed with developing a space plan for the future needs of the regional program and move forward to develop agreements that would outline the components and the costs for such a program for consideration by the undersigned cities.

We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Mayor of Princeton



Mayor of Fairview



Mayor of Melissa



Mayor of Celina



Mayor of Anna



Mayor of Lavon



Mayor of Weston



Mayor of Josephine



Mayor of Farmersville

CC: Bill Bilyeu, County Administrator
Terry Box, Collin County Sheriff