

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: May 11, 2015

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of May 20, 2015

Subject: Approval of Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) between the Metropolitan Council and the East Metro SWAT Team

District(s), Member(s): District 8 – Letofsky; District 10 – McCarthy; District 11 - Rummel

Policy/Legal Reference: N/A

Staff Prepared/Presented: John M. Harrington, Chief of Police, (612) 349-7201

Division/Department: Metro Transit Police

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve a joint powers agreement (JPA) between the Metropolitan Council / Metro Transit Police and the East Metro SWAT Team.

Background

The Metro Transit Police Department was asked to join the East Metro SWAT Team in 2014. The team is made up of a handful of police departments in the east metro area within Metro Transit's jurisdiction (Roseville, St. Anthony, New Brighton, North St. Paul and the University of Minnesota). The request to join was made by several of the east metro Police Chiefs' and Metro Transit Police Chief John Harrington agreed. After the initial equipment purchase for the officer (approx. \$5,000), the annual costs associated with having a member on the team are minimal. Wages are the majority of the costs and they're accounted for in the operational budget.

Rationale

The Metro Transit Police Department has seen dramatic growth in its full-time sworn staff over the last few years. With that growth, the agency needs to cultivate its relationships within the local law enforcement community. Chief Harrington sees this as an opportunity to further our stance in the law enforcement community by sharing resources as well as an opportunity to provide some of the officers with specialized tactical training which may assist with employee retention.

Funding

Funding for this is available in the yearly Operational budget.

Known Support / Opposition

Entities making up the East Metro SWAT Team (City of Roseville, City of St. Anthony, City of New Brighton, City of North St. Paul, University of Minnesota, and Metro Transit Police) all support this JPA.

There is no known opposition.