

April 3, 2003

Honorable Mayor and Members of
the Hermosa Beach City Council

Regular Meeting of
April 8, 2003

**PROPOSAL BY SOUTH BAY REGIONAL PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS
AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE DISPATCHING SERVICES TO THE CITY OF
HERMOSA BEACH**

Recommendation:

That the City Council review the proposal submitted by the South Bay Regional Communications Authority and direct staff to return at the next meeting with any additional information and direct the City Manager to meet with representatives the City of El Segundo concerning the existing agreement notice requirements and report back at the 4/22/03 meeting.

Background:

I have attached a report that the Police Chief has prepared evaluating the proposal from the Authority (RCC). As you know, we presently receive this service under a cooperative agreement with the City of El Segundo. The service that we have received from El Segundo has been excellent and we expect that it will remain so in the future.

The revised proposal submitted by RCC represents a savings from the costs that we know we would have if we remained with El Segundo. The three-year savings is over \$507,000 (This amount is different than the amount contained in the Police Chief's report as an additional \$125,000 rebate was offered after that report was prepared). The Police Chief's report goes into detail on the various costs involved and how the payments would be structured in order to achieve the savings. The proposal provided by RCC represents a discount on the rates that it charges it member cities of Gardena, Hawthorne and Manhattan Beach. The proposal is for us to be a customer just as we are with El Segundo. RCC has informed us that they are considering other customers as well.

The projected savings in the revised proposal are significant and should be taken into consideration. It may be that additional savings will be offered. Considering the fiscal situation the city will face in the coming budget year, any savings we can achieve while maintaining needed service levels is important for both staff and the City Council to consider. The Police Chief's concerns of timing and additional research effort should also be taken into consider. It seems clear that we could not make a transition by July 1, 2003. In order to make a transition at some other time during the fiscal year would require a modification of our agreement with El Segundo. The agreement calls for a decision to withdraw by the end of April. A transition date during the fourth quarter of 2003 would be the soonest that staff would recommend. This would allow time for our staff to review and develop confidence in the new arrangement. This would also allow time for staff to provide the City Council and community additional information on the change. The transition, if the decision is made to go to RCC, will be a major effort of the police staff, both before and after. Changing major systems like this requires a great deal of effort and time to ensure that it meets our needs and those of the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen R. Burrell
City Manager