

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Brian Sturgeon, Chief of Police

Through: Nate Burkett, City Manager

Cc:

Date: January 10, 2022

Subject: JPA Establishing Criminal Justice Network (CJN) Board and Operations

West St Paul has been a member of a cooperative partnership that addresses the needs of criminal justice information, technology and data transfer between criminal justice partners for over two decades. This partnership was known by a couple of different names including Criminal Justice Information Integration Network (CJIIN) and more recently Criminal Justice Network (CJN).

This entity is currently under the purview of Dakota County and the staff are County employees. Operational decisions and goals are generally made by members of a board that are authorized through the current CJN JPA with Dakota County. Members include Dakota County, City of Burnsville, City of Farmington, City of Hastings, City of Mendota Heights, City of South St Paul, City of West St Paul, Dakota County Sheriff's Office, and the City of Rosemount.

CJN provides criminal justice networking and products to include scheduling, field based reporting (FBR) and a record management system (RMS). Additionally, a file sharing and transfer system is in place to process, transfer and/or share criminal justice data with courts, jail services, probation, and social services, just to name a few.

The products developed and implemented by CJN are well respected and there are a number of criminal justice agencies across the State of Minnesota that utilize and pay for services from CJN. A few of these entities include the City of St Paul, County of Steele and the County of Rice.

Over the last few years, discussions took place with Dakota County and board members to move CJN from being a subset of Dakota County and make it a separate JPA organization. As such, negotiations have taken place among member agencies and Dakota County with the result being the attached JPA.

Funding for the JPA organization will come from member contributions along with current fund balance transfer from Dakota County's CJN Operations accounts. The 2022 funding that West St Paul will contribute is in the current 2022 Operational Budget and should not significantly change due to the JPA.

If West St Paul does not participate in this JPA, we would have to look at different vendors for our current RMS and FBR systems and will not have the ability to electronically transfer data which will cause a great amount of additional work on our staff thus reducing efficiency. In order to implement different RMS and FBR systems the costs would be much greater, in excess of an additional \$40,000 or more for comparable systems.