



**BERTHA W. HENRY**, County Administrator

115 S. Andrews Avenue, Room 409 • Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301 • 954-357-7362 • FAX 954-357-7360

April 5, 2013

To: Municipal Managers

**Re: Invitation to Join the Consolidated Regional E-911 and Communications System**

Dear Municipal Managers:

The voter approved amendment to the Broward County's charter provides for the County to fund the communications infrastructure for closet unit response. To date, the County continues to meet this charter obligation, and has invested over \$40 million. Future investments in the system are estimated to be nearly \$55 million over the next 5-7 years.

All, but five municipalities, have joined the countywide communications infrastructure platform; thus resulting in savings to our taxpayers, but more importantly, allows for closet unit response to be achieved. We continue to have discussions and encourage the five remaining municipalities to join the countywide infrastructure platform. With their participation, we can realize greater cost savings, achieve closet unit response, and improve emergency communications throughout Broward County for all residents.

As we continue to focus on the technology infrastructure, our next step is to implement the consolidated dispatch centers approach that will further enhance our emergency communications. On April 2, 2013, the Board of County Commissioners (Board) approved the motion to adopt a resolution directing the County Administrator to publish a notice of public hearing on Tuesday, April 23, 2013 at 2:00 pm to create a Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) for a Consolidated Regional E-911 and Communications System. This is the final hearing on establishing the MSTU for the regional system.

Although police and fire rescue services including emergency dispatch are traditional municipal services, the Board approved a motion to cover 60% of the operational costs to fund the Consolidated Regional E-911 and Communications System with the remaining 40% being covered by participating municipalities and the unincorporated area through a MSTU. This funding approach not only ensures that all participants will pay their share in the *system* starting in FY 14, but also allows for costs savings to be realized by those municipalities that *currently* operate their own Public Safety Answer Points (PSAP).

We are inviting each municipality to join the Consolidated Regional E-911 and Communications System. Your participation further enhances emergency communications

Municipal Managers

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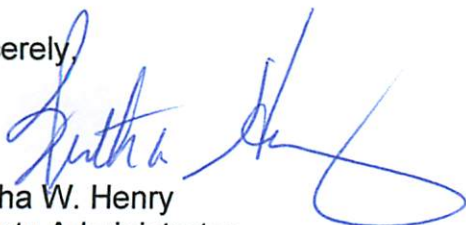
and public safety throughout Broward County, and will result in operational and costs savings that benefit all our residents. Once the number of participants is known, County staff will update the financial numbers and plans to have the regional system functional by October 1, 2013. We do anticipate that there will be transitional items that we will need to address; however, the technology and infrastructure that currently is in place allows for consolidation to move forward.

On March 27, 2013, a meeting was held at the EOC to discuss the steps and time frames necessary to establish the MSTU and accompanying draft Interlocal Agreement (ILA) to fund the regional system. The MSTU Ordinance and a sample format have been provided to each municipality.

The City Managers from the Cities of Coconut Creek, Fort Lauderdale, Margate, Pembroke Pines, Sunrise, and Weston have been selected as representatives by the Broward City County Management Association (BCCMA) to discuss the ILA with the County. Please feel free to provide your feedback and comments, as there is a meeting scheduled for the week of April 8, 2013.

Please do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Bertha W. Henry  
County Administrator

Attachment

cc: Joni Armstrong Coffey, County Attorney  
Alphonso Jefferson, Jr., Assistant to the County Administrator