



## CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

**FROM:** The Office of the City Manager   **DATE:** November 14, 2018  
**SUBJECT:** Authorize city manager to execute an interlocal agreement with the cities of Richland Hills and Watauga for Joint Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team services.  
**PRESENTER:** Rick Scott, Assistant Chief of Police

### **SUMMARY:**

The home rule cities North Richland Hills, Richland Hills and Watauga have collectively agreed to combine personnel onto the North Richland Hills Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team. Adding personnel from partner cities will help supplement team staffing and provide crisis response services to partner cities.

### **GENERAL DESCRIPTION:**

The cities of Richland Hills and Watauga are requesting to enter into an interlocal cooperative agreement with the city of North Richland Hills to combine police officers onto the North Richland Hills police SWAT team. By adding partner agency officers to the team, NRH is effectively able to reduce its overall personnel contribution. In addition, when called to a partner city to assist in a crisis situation necessitating a SWAT response, the impact to NRH police operations is reduced by the supplemental SWAT team staffing.

Several police departments in the North Texas region have already combined SWAT services to save money and increase capabilities. The combination of services reduces any one city's obligation for personnel, equipment, and training costs. In addition, having team members from surrounding cities on a single team increases communication and familiarity within those cities NRH is routinely called to support.

This agreement only covers police personnel and equipment costs for adding team members, as well as interjurisdictional authorization to operate. Each participating city is required to cover its own individual personnel and equipment costs for its members that are added to the team.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

To authorize the city manager to execute an interlocal agreement with the cities of Richland Hills and Watauga for joint Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team services.