ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION NO.: R-2026-083

Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Interim Agreement and Extension to 911 Communications Center Consolidation Agreement between the City of Columbia and Richland County

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council this 20th day of October, 2026, that the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute the attached Interim Agreement and Extension to 911 Communications Center Consolidation Agreement, or on a form to be approved by the City Attorney, between the City of Columbia and Richland County for the continued operation of the 911 Communications Center through June 30, 2028.

Requested by:

Teresa Wilson, City Manager

Approved by:

Teresa B. Wilson

City Manager

Approved as to form:

City Attorney

Introduced: 10/20/2026
Final Reading: 10/20/2026

Mayor

ATTEST:

Erika D. Hammond

City Clerk

Last revised: 10/14/2026

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA	)	INTERIM AGREEMENT AND EXTENSION
	)	TO 911 COMMUNICATIONS CENTER
COUNTY OF RICHLAND	)	CONSOLIDATION AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia ("City") and Richland County ("County") entered into the 911 Communications Center Consolidation Agreement dated July 1, 2010 and thereafter extended for additional periods with the last period ending on June 30, 2026 ("911 Agreement");

WHEREAS, the City and County desire to extend the term of the 911 Agreement for an additional term ending on June 30, 2028 and to amend or reinstate the terms established therein; and

WHEREAS, the City and County will endeavor to enter into a new 911 Communications Service Agreement to address the future operations of all emergency communications by June 30, 2028 or sooner.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing premises and for the mutual undertakings and terms contained herein, the City and County agree as follows subject to and contingent upon approval and authorization by the parties' respective legislative bodies by legislative enactment:

1. The term of the 911 Agreement, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit A, shall be extended from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2028 ("FY2027-FY2028 Extension Period").

2. The 911 Agreement is amended by deleting section 1 (Operational Control) and inserting the following as a new section 1:

> 1. OPERATIONAL CONTROL: The City shall maintain control over the CRC 911 operations conducted out of their current location and shall be responsible for establishing policies and procedures for said operations until such time as the CRC 911 relocates to the 911 Center and, thereafter, the City shall maintain control over the operations conducted therein by City staff members. Operational control includes, but is not limited to, managing, directing, and overseeing the daily emergency operations.

3. The 911 Agreement is amended by deleting section 2(a) (Financial) and inserting the following as a new section 2(a):

> a. The County will continue to administer the 911 Emergency Telephone System Fund which supports the continuing maintenance and replacement costs of the

911 telephony system, radio consoles/workstations, and all other related equipment and/or systems.

4. The 911 Agreement is amended by deleting section 4 (Building) and inserting the following as a new section 4:

> 4. BUILDING: CRC 911 is located at 1800 Laurel Street. The County constructed and owns the Richland County Public Service Center located at 7201 Two Notch Road ("911 Center"). During this FY2027-FY2028 Extension Period, the Parties anticipate the CRC 911 will relocate to the 911 Center.
>
> a. So long as the CRC 911 operates out of the 1800 Laurel Street building, the City will be responsible for providing operational and maintenance needs for the 1800 Laurel Street building and the County will be responsible for providing operational and maintenance needs for the 911 Center building.
>
> b. If, and when, the CRC 911 relocates to the 911 Center, the cost of the operational and maintenance needs for the 911 Center building shall be paid pursuant to a separate agreement entered into by the Parties. Until such agreement is executed by the Parties, the 911 Center building operational and maintenance costs shall be borne equally by each Party subject to the appropriation of funds for the purpose stated in this section by the respective governing bodies.

5. The 911 Agreement is amended by deleting section 5 (Maintenance) and inserting the following as a new section 5:

> 5. MAINTENANCE: Maintenance of the 911 system equipment and console equipment will be funded by available 911 subscriber fee revenues.
>
> a. All other radio equipment will be maintained by the respective agencies owning such equipment. Maintenance expenses for the Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) system will be included in the annual CRC 911 budget.
>
> b. Subject to the appropriation of funds for the purpose stated in this section by the respective governing bodies, the operational cost of CRC 911 shall be as follows:
>
> i. Personnel costs. Richland County will pay to City up to a maximum of 50% of personnel costs to a maximum amount of $3,600,000 for the

County's budget year FY2027 and up to the amount allocated in its FY2028 budget for its budget year FY2028.

ii. Other operational costs. Richland County and the City will agree upon allocation of costs and associated payments during the County and City budget cycle for FY 2027 and 2028.

6. The 911 Agreement is amended by the addition of language to section 6 (Personnel) which shall now read as follows:

> 6. PERSONNEL: During the course of this Agreement all current and future CRC 911 personnel will continue to be considered employees of the City of Columbia and will follow current City of Columbia Employee Handbook provisions. During the FY2027-FY2028 Extension Period, Richland County will provide the City's CRC 911 Director and their operational leadership staff members access to technical equipment at the 911 Center for training to facilitate the transfer of the CRC 911 operations to the 911 Center as expeditiously as possible. The CRC 911 Director, or their designee, shall be responsible for providing training to CRC 911 staff.

7. The 911 Agreement is amended by the addition of section 12 (Insurance) which shall read as follows:

> 12. INSURANCE: Each party will maintain a general liability insurance policy or a self-funded general liability program in accordance with the requirements of the South Carolina Tort Claims Act, workers' compensation insurance in accordance with the laws of the State of South Carolina, and automobile liability insurance meeting the requirements of the State of South Carolina. Each party will provide timely certificates of insurance evidencing such coverage to the other party. Neither party will provide individual coverage for the other party's employees, with each party being responsible for coverage of its respective employees.

8. Except as expressly extended or amended herein, the 911 Agreement shall remain in full force and effect with all terms reinstated.

9. This FY2027-FY2028 Extension agreement may be executed in multiple counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original and all of which shall constitute a single instrument and shall be binding upon and fully enforceable against the successors and assigns of the parties hereto.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties represent and warrant that each has all requisite power and authority, and all necessary authorizations, to enter into and carry out the terms and provisions of this Agreement and the execution, delivery, and performance thereof.

WITNESSES AS TO COUNTY:

Angie Nelson

Ashunjo A Myers

RICHLAND COUNTY,
SOUTH CAROLINA:

Leonardo Brown

By: Leonardo Brown, MBA, CPM

Its: County Administrator

Address: 2020 Hampton St.

Columbia, SC 29204

Date: 11/2/2026

Richland County Attorney's Office

Patrick L. Wright

Approved as to LEGAL form ONLY
NO Opinion Rendered As To Content

WITNESSES AS TO CITY:

CITY OF COLUMBIA,
SOUTH CAROLINA:

Teresa Wilson

By: Teresa Wilson

Its: City Manager

Address: PO Box 147

Columbia, SC 29217

Date: 10/24/2026

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Legal Department City of Columbia, SC
10/14/2026

Exhibit A

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
) 911 COMMUNICATIONS CENTER CONSOLIDATION AGREEMENT
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)

This Agreement is entered into this 1 day of July, 2010, by and between Richland County ("County") and the City of Columbia ("City").

BACKGROUND:

In 1999, the Columbia-Richland Communications Center (CRC 911) became operational as a result of the 911 Communications Consolidation Agreement between the City of Columbia and Richland County.

Located within CFD Fire/Rescue #1 (1800 Laurel Street), CRC 911 is the primary Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for Richland County, providing consolidated emergency dispatch service for the Columbia Police Department, the Richland County Sheriff's Department, the Columbia Fire Department, and the Richland County Emergency Services Department.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the County and City Councils desire to continue the operation of the Columbia-Richland Communications Center, a consolidated 911 dispatch center, commonly referred to as CRC 911; and,

WHEREAS, CRC 911 will continue to operate in accordance with the Richland County 911 Plan as approved by the State of South Carolina Budget and Control Board, Office of Information Resources ("OIR"); and,

WHEREAS, CRC 911 will continue to answer 911 phone calls from the public in the unincorporated areas of the County, the City of Columbia, the City of Arcadia (aka, the City of Blythewood, and the City of Eastover; coordinating and dispatching public safety agency workers to emergency and non-emergency calls for assistance, logging dispatch information into a computer-aided dispatch system, recording emergency radio and telephone conversations, obtaining background information, such as NCIC checks and registration information, and coordinating backup assistance for public safety workers;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants herein, it is agreed as follows:

1. OPERATIONAL CONTROL: The County and City shall continue operation of the Oversight Committee, composed of the following officials, or their respective designees; the Richland County Emergency Services Department, the Richland County Sheriff's Department, the Columbia Police Department, the Columbia Fire Department, the City Manager, the County Administrator, and the CRC 911 Director.

The Oversight Committee shall meet with the CRC 911 Director at least four (4) times per calendar year, and will provide guidance on the operation of CRC 911.

The Oversight Committee shall advise the CRC 911 Director, who is responsible for the daily operations. Each public safety agency is responsible for establishing the policies and procedures for dispatching their respective agencies. These policies shall be implemented and enforced by the CRC 911 Director.

2. FINANCIAL:
   a. The County will continue to administer the 911 Emergency Telephone System Fund which supports the continuing maintenance and replacement costs of the 911 telephony system, radio consoles/workstations, and all other related equipment and/or systems. The parties shall continue to share the cost for the operation of CRC 911, subject to the appropriation of funds for such purpose by the respective bodies. Title to 911 dispatch consoles shall be jointly held by the City and County.
   b. The CRC 911 Director shall prepare annual operating budget requests (City/County) for the system and shall submit the budget requests to the controlling authorities (Columbia City Manager & Richland County Administrator) for review and approval, no later than January 15th (County share of budget request), and February 20th (City share of budget request) of each calendar year. Proposed modifications to the budget requests must be provided to the controlling authorities by the CRC 911 Director within thirty (30) days of receipt of the initial budget requests.

3. LEVEL OF SERVICE: CRC 911 will continue to provide the current level of service to each party, to the extent funds have been appropriated and will, to the same extent, support each agency's requirements as identified in the established policies and procedures.
   a. Both parties agree that any request for additional, non-911 related, "value added" services, must be reviewed, and approved by both controlling authorities prior to implementation.
   b. The CRC 911 Director will be consulted regarding the financial and/or operational impact created by any additional "value added" service request.

4. BUILDING: CRC 911 will continue to be located at 1800 Laurel Street. The City will be responsible for providing CRC 911 operational and maintenance needs.
   a. Due to the rapid growth of the City of Columbia and Richland County, maintaining a state-of-the-art emergency communications center is necessary to ensure efficient and professional services to citizens and user agencies.
   b. Both parties agree to initiate a joint (City/County) Feasibility Study, facilitated by the CRC 911 Director, within twenty-four (24) months from the effective date of this Agreement.
      1. Feasibility Study: The focus of the feasibility study will be the identification of viable options of either expanding current space availability, or procuring a new facility in order to acquire dedicated training facilities, technology areas, conference areas, personnel maintenance facilities, supervisory areas, and storage (records) areas.
      2. The study and associated recommendations will be presented to the Oversight Committee for consideration and approval.
      3. All approved recommendations will be included in the next fiscal year's budget proposal to the controlling authorities.

5. MAINTENANCE: Maintenance of the 911 system equipment and console equipment will be funded by available 911 subscriber fee revenues.
   a. All other radio equipment will be maintained by the respective agencies. Maintenance expenses for the Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) system will be included in the annual CRC 911 budget and shall be borne equally by the parties.
   b. Both parties agree to continue to equally share the operational cost of CRC 911; to include, but not limited to, other operational, maintenance, and/or administrative costs, including personnel/staffing costs, subject to the appropriation of funds for such purpose by the respective governing bodies.

6. PERSONNEL: During the course of this Agreement all current and future CRC 911 personnel will continue to be considered employees of the City of Columbia.

7. ACQUISITION OF DISPATCH EQUIPMENT: Through the use of available 911 subscribers' fees, the County shall continue to provide sufficient 911 dispatch equipment required to properly operate CRC 911. The County, through the use of available 911 subscribers' fees, shall provide such additional equipment as is necessary from time to time to provide adequate and efficient 911 service.

8. AUDIT: All County funds, including 911 tariff funds used to support the operations of CRC 911, will be subject to audit by the County.

9. DURATION: The term of this Agreement shall be for a period of five (5) years commencing upon the date of acceptance.

10. TERMINATION: Either party may terminate this Agreement upon twelve (12) months' written notice to the other party of its intent to do so. However, termination of this Agreement shall not result in disruptions of 911 services to either party.

11. ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND AMENDMENTS: This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties, and there are no other agreements, covenants, promises, terms or understanding concerning the subject hereof, other than those herein set forth. No subsequent alteration, modification, amendment, change, deletion, or addition to this Agreement shall be binding upon either party unless reduced to writing and duly executed by each party's authorized representative.

WITNESS:

RICHLAND COUNTY

BY: _____
J. Milton Pope
ITS: County Administrator

WITNESS:

CITY OF COLUMBIA

BY: _____
Steve A. Gantt
ITS: City Manager

Richland County Attorney's Office

Approved As To LEGAL Form Only.
No Opinion Rendered As To Content.