CITY OF GRANITE FALLS Granite Falls, Washington

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRANITE FALLS, WASHINGTON, SUPPORTING FUNDING OF A NEW COUNTYWIDE 911 EMERGENCY RADIO SYSTEM.

WHEREAS, public safety depends on having reliable and effective emergency 911 radio communications; and

WHEREAS, the Snohomish County Emergency Radio System (SERS), has provided a dependable countywide emergency radio service since 1999 that enables our first responders to effectively respond to 911 emergency calls in our area; and

WHEREAS, SERS has two decades of technical expertise in developing, acquiring, installing, operating, maintaining, and managing the countywide emergency radio system; and

WHEREAS, the SERS existing analog, 800 MHz radio system is now outdated and about to reach its end-of-life. When that happens in 2020 and the existing system can no longer be sustained, it will become increasingly difficult and eventually impossible to maintain reliable radio communications between 911 dispatchers and our first responders; and

WHEREAS, independent expert analysis by a national consultant has determined that a new replacement P-25 radio system using modern digital technology will substantially reduce the risk of future radio system failure and provide better audio voice quality for simulcast, two-way, interoperable emergency communications; and

WHEREAS, other counties of similar size in our state have already taken action to fund and replace their outdated 800 MHz radio system with a new P-25 digital radio system; and

WHEREAS, SERS is engaged with Snohomish County in a competitive bidding procurement process to select a qualified vendor to provide new countywide 911 radio system equipment and services; and

WHEREAS, equitable countywide funding for a new radio system must be authorized and secured to finance a new radio system that has a potential cost preliminarily estimated at \$60 to \$75 million.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRANITE FALLS that we, the City of Granite Falls, support taking necessary actions as to replace the outdated SERS emergency radio system through means that will not be a financial burden on small cities in Snohomish County. We respectfully urge that Snohomish County elected officials approve the resources necessary to purchase, design, and install a new, digital,

countywide, P25 911 emergency radio system. The City of Granite Falls supports the County taking actions necessary to authorize a dedicated countywide funding source for the new emergency 911 radio system that will eliminate the need to fund this system through pro-rated contributions from individual municipalities in the County.

ADOPTED by the City Council at an open public meeting this 18th day of April, 2018.

CITY OF GRANITE FALLS

By

MATTHE'W HARTMAN, MAYOR

Attest:

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DARLA REESE, CITY CLERK

Approved as to form:

By

THOM H. GRAAFSTRA, CITY ATTORNEY