FARMINGTON CITY

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MAYOR

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CITY COUNCIL

SHANE PACE
CITY MANAGER

Davis County Commission
61 South Main Street
Farmington, Utah 84025

April 5, 2021

Dear Commissioners:

Two years ago, the City Managers of the 15 cities in Davis County along with Sheriff Sparks started a process to transfer paramedic services from the County Sheriff's Office to the cities or districts in the County who provide fire and emergency medical services. Part of the paramedic service was transferred to Layton City and South Davis Metro Fire District years ago. This process would finalize the full transfer of paramedic services.

In our initial meetings, there was great support for the transfer because Sheriff Sparks and you as Commissioners were open to the process. It took a while to work through many logistical issues on who would provide the service instead of the Sheriff. An Interlocal Agreement was drafted for all the entities to sign committing to the transfer. Curtis Koch, our County Auditor was involved early on and provided great support to us in figuring out the financial ramifications of the transfer. During this time, a number of financial inequities were discovered that made this transfer more important. Two of those issues include the fact that Davis County was supplementing the paramedic services from its general fund and the cities of the South Davis Metro Fire were paying more than their share of the paramedic services. The paramedic tax implemented by the County in 1978 only covered about half the cost of the services Countywide. The tax received from the residents in the cities of the District was more than what the District received back from the County to provide paramedic service in its district.

It became obvious a change needed to occur soon. As entities were considering approving and signing the interlocal agreement, many were concerned about the inequities and how they would provide services during the transition period from July 1 2021 and December 31 2022. The County would stop its paramedic tax and the cities and districts would implement a tax on July 1 of 2021. However, the original plan required the cities and districts to reimburse the County for paramedic services during that year and a half period. This also meant that South Davis Metro Fire District would need to charge their new tax but still provide $400,000 to the County for paramedic services. Layton would charge their new tax and send it to the County and the County would provide them with the amount they were already

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receiving from the County. The rest of the cities and districts would need to provide what the County usually received from the countywide tax for paramedic services.

This process became very difficult for all the entities, especially the County Sheriff's Office who needs to keep their employees through this transition and beyond. For this reason, the cities and districts in the County who will provide the service after December 31 2022 request the following:

- That the County use CARES act funds or any other funds necessary to cover the cost of paramedic services by the Davis County Sheriff's Office during the transition period from July 1 2021 until December 1 2022.
- That the South Davis Fire District not be required to provide the County with any funds from its new tax rate to cover paramedic services in the rest of the County during the transition period.
- That Layton City will increase its tax rate to match what the County is eliminating and send that collection to the County. In return, the County will send Layton City the amount it has received under the existing contract to provide paramedic services during the transition period from July 1 2021 until December 31 2022.

This would enable all the entities to focus on preparing to provide paramedic services with the funds generated from their tax increases and general funds. This would provide a great amount of security and stability during the transition to not only the cities and districts but also the County Sheriff's Office to know his employees' wages are covered during the transition.

We have met as City Managers and District Chiefs and agreed these funding steps will solidify all of the entities commitment to move forward with the transfer. This will enable each entity to shore up their budgets and enable them to hire staff and receive their paramedic licenses in time to be ready on January 1 2023 or before.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you need additional detail on this request, please do not hesitate to contact me at 801-201-2034 or by email at space@farmington.utah.gov.

Sincerely

Shane E. Pace

Shane E. Pace
City Manager

Cc: Curtis Koch, Davis County Clerk/Auditor