



CITY OF KIRKLAND
City Manager's Office
123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3001
www.kirklandwa.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager

From: Beth Goldberg, Deputy City Manager of Operations
Carly Joerger, Management Analyst

Date: April 11, 2022

Subject: AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE RADAR NAVIGATOR CITIES TO CREATE AN ENTITY THAT WOULD MERGE THE RADAR NAVIGATOR PROGRAM AND KIRKLAND'S COMMUNITY RESPONDER PROGRAM INTO A REGIONAL MOBILE CRISIS RESPONSE PROGRAM.

RECOMMENDATION:

City Council considers final adoption of Resolution R-5530 authorizing the City Manager to negotiate the terms of an interlocal agreement with the cities of Bothell, Kenmore, Lake Forest Park, and Shoreline to merge the Response, Awareness, De-escalation, and Referral (RADAR) Navigator program and Kirkland's Community Responder program into a regional mobile crisis response program. If the City Council adopts the resolution, the City Manager will begin negotiations based on the goals and interests listed in the Resolution.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

At the April 5, 2022 Council meeting, Council considered a proposal from the City Manager to merge the City of Kirkland's Community Responder Program with the regional pilot-program, RADAR Navigators, and create a new entity to provide a regional mobile crisis response program. City Council received the report, discussed several key interests of the Council in merging the two programs, and directed the City Manager to bring back a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to negotiate an interlocal agreement with the Council's goals and interests in mind. The Council also concurred with the staff recommendation to proceed with hiring two Kirkland Community Responders but suspend recruitment for the Kirkland Program Manager position while the interlocal agreement is being negotiated.

Resolution R-5530 (Att-1) has three sections. First, the "whereas" statements document the history of the City's vision to reduce use of force and improve outcomes for community members in crisis, involvement in the RADAR Navigator Program, and important Council milestones of adopting R-5434, funding the Community Safety Initiative, and forming the City's Community Responder program. Section one officially authorizes the City Manager to negotiate an interlocal agreement with the RADAR cities to form an entity that provides a regional mobile crisis response program that achieves certain goals. Section two lists specific operational interests of the City of Kirkland that the City Manager is to include in the negotiations of the interlocal agreement. The program goals and operational interests are listed in the resolution and are based upon the Council's input and direction from the April 5, 2022 meeting.

RADAR Navigator Community Advisory Board

The City Council also expressed interest in having the new regional crisis response entity incorporate input from community members with lived experience in the crisis and/or behavioral health system. Since the April 5, 2022 meeting, staff learned of the newly formed Community Advisory Board (CAB)

to the RADAR Navigator Program and would like to provide the Council with some information about this model, for the Council's awareness.

The RADAR Navigator Program Manager launched the CAB in January of 2022 after a year of preparation through a literature review of community-based governance models, obtaining funder approval to provide board members with stipends, and consultations with member cities' diversity, equity, and inclusion staff, people who have used the RADAR Navigator program, and staff at the National Alliance on Mental Illness. The CAB has four members with lived experience in the crisis system, homelessness, law enforcement contact, and behavioral health system either personally, or as a family member or caregiver. The board is currently recruiting for new members (Att-2 CAB Recruitment Flier).

The board's 2022 achievements so far include having a board member sit on the hiring panel for new Navigator positions, identifying core values of the CAB, making recommendations for the mission and vision statements of the RADAR Navigator Program, and hosting a community education event about the origins of RADAR Navigator and how it has since evolved. CAB is in the process of planning another community education event about the upcoming 988 crisis hotline. As Kirkland and the other RADAR cities proceed with negotiations, the CAB will be a valuable resource for insight and advice on the formation of the regional mobile crisis response program.

Council Action Requested

Staff received Council input and direction on the Council's interests in forming a regional mobile crisis response program at the April 5, 2022 Council meeting and recommends the attached Resolution R-5530 for final adoption. If the Council concurs with the staff recommendation, the Council should adopt the Resolution.

Attachments

Att-1 Resolution R-5530

Att-2 RADAR Navigator Community Advisory Board Recruitment Flier