

SOUTH METRO/CUNNINGHAM FIRE RESCUE AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION NO. 2018 - 06

**A RESOLUTION ADVOCATING VOTER APPROVAL OF SOUTH METRO
FIRE RESCUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT'S INCLUSION OF THE AREA
WITHIN THE HIGHLANDS RANCH METROPOLITAN DISTRICT AND
LITTLETON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT DURING THE MAY 8, 2018
ELECTIONS**

WHEREAS, the South Metro/Cunningham Fire Rescue Authority ("Authority") is a separate legal entity with those powers which are specifically authorized by, and in compliance with applicable provisions of the Colorado Constitution and Colorado Revised Statutes, and the South Metro/Cunningham Fire Rescue Authority Creation and Pre-Inclusion Agreement dated November 16, 2017 ("Creation Agreement"), between the Cunningham Fire Protection District ("Cunningham") and the South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District ("South Metro"), both of which are quasi-municipal corporations and political subdivisions of the State of Colorado, operating pursuant to Article 1, Title 32, C.R.S.; and

WHEREAS, the Authority provides fire suppression, fire prevention and public education, emergency rescue and extrication, hazardous materials, ambulance and emergency medical services (collectively, "Emergency Services") to over 200,000 Colorado residents living in approximately 195 square miles of Arapahoe and Douglas Counties; and

WHEREAS, for many years Highlands Ranch Metropolitan District ("Highlands Ranch") and Littleton Fire Protection District ("Littleton Fire") have provided Emergency Services to the citizens and property within their jurisdictions through Littleton Fire Rescue, which is operated in partnership with the City of Littleton ("City"); and

WHEREAS, in late 2016, discussions began regarding the possible unification of the Emergency Services being provided by Cunningham, South Metro, Highlands Ranch, Littleton Fire and the City. On May 2, 2017, the Fire Chiefs of South Metro, Littleton Fire Rescue, and Cunningham issued a Unification Proposal, which provided their analysis and recommendations for creating one unified fire protection district to serve all of the citizens and properties currently within Cunningham, South Metro, Highlands Ranch, Littleton Fire and the City; and

WHEREAS, in November of 2017, South Metro and Highlands Ranch entered into the Memorandum of Understanding for Establishment of a Unified Fire Protection District, and in December of 2017, entered into a Pre-Unification and Fire Authority

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Agreement, and subsequently Highlands Ranch gave notice of terminating its participation under the Littleton Fire Rescue IGA beginning January 1, 2019; and

WHEREAS, in November of 2017, South Metro and Littleton Fire entered into the Memorandum of Understanding for Establishment of a Unified Fire Protection District, and in December of 2017, entered into a Pre-Unification and Fire Authority Agreement, and subsequently Littleton Fire gave notice of terminating its participation under the Littleton Fire Rescue IGA beginning January 1, 2019; and

WHEREAS, South Metro, Highlands Ranch, and Littleton Fire wish to legally unify into a single fire protection district; and

WHEREAS, final approval of the inclusion of the Highlands Ranch and Littleton Fire properties into South Metro must be granted through an election of the electors of the area to be included; and

WHEREAS, the Authority Board of Directors hereby finds and determines that there are clear and intrinsic benefits to the inclusion of Highlands Ranch and Littleton Fire into South Metro, including improved Emergency Services, firefighter health and safety, long-term financial stability, and taxpayer representation; and

WHEREAS, we, the appointed members of the Authority's Board of Directors, believe it to be in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Authority to support this ballot proposal and urge the citizens of Highlands Ranch and Littleton Fire to cast an affirmative YES vote; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Fair Campaign Practices Act expressly authorizes local governments to adopt and distribute in normal fashion a Resolution regarding any ballot issue of import to that local government;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the South Metro/Cunningham Fire Rescue Authority does affirmatively support the ballot question to include the area within Highlands Ranch and Littleton Fire into South Metro and further demonstrates its support by approving this Resolution and disseminating its action to its residents and constituents.

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ADOPTED this 21st day of March 2018.

South Metro/Cunningham Fire Rescue
Authority

By  _____
Laura Simon, Chairman

Attest:

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Mark Lampert, Secretary