## THE STATE OF TEXAS **COUNTY OF FORT BEND**

## A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT SUPPORTING ANNUAL FUNDING FOR PUBLIC SAFETY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS UNDER HB 442, 82<sup>ND</sup> LEGISLATURE

WHEREAS, more than 5,800 fire, police, and emergency medical agencies respond daily to emergency and life-threatening incidents throughout Texas; and

WHEREAS, since 2009, federal funding for public safety communications has decreased, and many public safety agencies have depended on this funding to sustain their emergency communication systems; and

WHEREAS, without on-going funding, existing communications may be negatively impacted by a lack of radio coverage in some areas, which means responders will not be able to communicate with each other when they are in such areas; and existing communications may be negatively impacted by a lack of basic communication between agency command staff and emergency responders in the field; and existing communications may be negatively impacted by a lack of interoperable communications between multiple agencies responding to major fires, highway incidents, hurricanes, and other disasters; and

WHEREAS, because of this lost funding, public safety agencies in every jurisdiction will suffer significantly, and in many locations, communications will become unreliable and some systems may become completely non-operational; and

WHEREAS, Texas House Bill 442, enacted September 1, 2011, amended the Government Code to establish the emergency radio infrastructure account in the general revenue fund, consisting of criminal conviction fees and all interest attributable to money in the account; and

WHEREAS, money in the emergency radio infrastructure account has not been distributed and no concerted effort has previously been made to establish an effective means for distributing funds from the account.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS: THAT THE 83RD LEGISLATURE OF TEXAS APPROPRIATE AN ANNUAL ALLOCATION TO PUBLIC SAFETY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS.

day of May, 2013. Richard Morkison, Comm. Pct. 1 Robert Grady Prestage, Comm. Andy Meyers, Comni. ND COV Attest: Dianne Wilson, County Clerk es Patterson, Comm. Pct. 4

(Seal)