LRB – RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION ANALYSIS

MARCH 9, 2006 AGENDA **ITEM 9, FILE 051500**
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE **Emma J. Stamps**

File No. 051500 is a resolution approving a memorandum of understanding between the United States Coast Guard and the Milwaukee Fire Department Water Patrol Unit. (Fire)

Background and Discussion

1. The Milwaukee Fire Department, the United States Coast Guard (USCG), and the USCG Auxiliary all operate boating safety, water patrols and vessel operation programs on Lake Michigan.

2. The USCG Auxiliary is the volunteer civilian component of the USCG that conducts boating safety courses and related educational programs for the general public. USCG Auxiliary also provides advanced technical training in surface vessel operations, boat crew operator training and search and rescue techniques for its own members.

3. The MFD has requested that these parties enter into a mutual services agreement.

   - The USCG Auxiliary training would be provide without fee to the MFD, if the Auxiliary has sufficient time, personnel and resources available.

   - MFD training must coincide with the Auxiliary's regularly scheduled public boat training classes, Auxiliary boat crew training, and/or Auxiliary advanced operational speciality courses.

   - MFD, in turn, would help the USCG and USCG Auxiliary patrol Lake Michigan

   - No costs are billable—each party is responsible for their members' expenses

4. MFD communication attachments do not quantify costs to the City in relation to expanding water patrol services to accommodate the USCG commitment nor the costs of hiring-in staff to replace dive team member shifts during training. Hire-ins are paid overtime rates.

5. The agreement contains no expiration date.

6. File 051500 approves a MOU between the USCG, the USCG Auxiliary, and the MFD Water Patrol Unit (Dive Team), allowing the MFD Dive Team to participate in aforementioned training exercises and also assist in Lake Michigan water patrols.

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal note indicates that this is an in-kind trade between the City and the USCG and has no fiscal impact. However, if training is conducted during regular work scheduling, then replacement workers must be hired in at overtime rates to fully staff the dive team.

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LRB – Fiscal Review Section
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