



August 16, 2017

John Walsh  
Strategy Director  
Governor Rick Snyder  
PO Box 30013  
Lansing MI 48909

**Re: SB400 and HB4651**

Dear John,

I am writing to you on behalf of the City of Grand Rapids regarding SB400 and HB4651, which propose a legislative amendment to provide critical funding for Next Generation 911 (NG911) and related IP infrastructure. The City of Grand Rapids supports passage of House Bill 4651 and Senate Bill 400 in their current forms.

The City of Grand Rapids operates a 9-1-1 dispatch center within Kent County for the purpose of taking and dispatching emergency calls. Grand Rapids, like many dispatch centers around the state, is trying to upgrade its network to the new NG911 platform. NG911 is an IP based technology that provides better and more reliable data for first responders. Fully deployed, NG911 allows callers to send text messages, pictures and videos as well as enhanced location information and crash data from systems such as OnStar and Sirius. NG911 is also more capable in connecting calls between emergency responders and law enforcement members in different areas. Kent County is on the list to move to the NG911 network and is likely a year or so away.

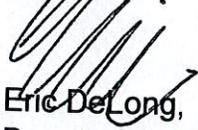
Historically, the State of Michigan has covered the costs associated with the statewide network. The State 911 Office has advised, however, that the network funding will be depleted by next spring. This is because the new technology is more expensive and the old technology has to be maintained until the entire State can operate on the NG911 system. Grand Rapids, like other dispatch centers, will need to maintain not only the more expensive NG911 system, but also the legacy system. Without adequate state funding, the costs will fall to the dispatch centers. Early estimated costs to support the network in Kent County are in excess of \$1.1 million annually; Grand Rapids would be responsible for about half of the total cost.

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SB400 and HB4651 provide a stable funding source for the counties to support the migration to Next Generation 9-1-1 and ongoing operational levels of service for 9-1-1 to its residents. Specifically, the I-fund, U-1400 Fund, and Spillover Fund provided for in these bills are funding mechanisms that Grand Rapids needs to support our existing network and the move to the NG911 network. Additionally, Grand Rapids relies upon the Training Fund to meet our State mandated training requirements.

If you have any questions, or require anything additional from us, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Eric DeLong,  
Deputy City Manager

cc: Dick Posthumus



August 15, 2017

Senator David Hildenbrand  
PO BOX 30036  
Lansing MI 48909-7536

**Re: SB400 and HB4651**

Dear Senator Hildenbrand:

I am writing to you on behalf of the City of Grand Rapids regarding SB400 and HB4651, which propose a legislative amendment to provide critical funding for Next Generation 911 (NG911) and related IP infrastructure. The City of Grand Rapids supports passage of House Bill 4651 and Senate Bill 400 in their current forms.

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Senator Hildenbrand

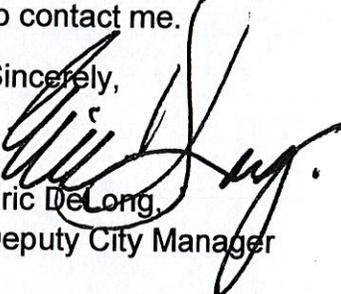
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Sincerely,



Eric DeLong,  
Deputy City Manager

cc: Senator Arlan Meekhof  
Senator Michael Kowall



August 15, 2017

State Representative David LaGrand  
P.O. Box 30014  
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

**Re: SB400 and HB4651**

Dear Representative LaGrand:

I am writing to you on behalf of the City of Grand Rapids regarding SB400 and HB4651, which propose a legislative amendment to provide critical funding for Next Generation 911 (NG911) and related IP infrastructure. The City of Grand Rapids supports passage of House Bill 4651 and Senate Bill 400 in their current forms.

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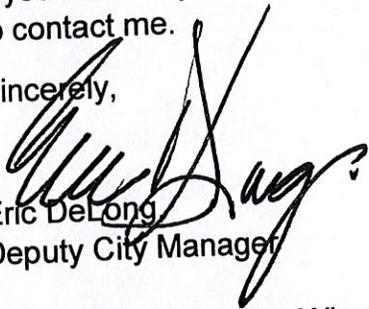
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State Representative LaGrand  
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Sincerely,



Eric DeLong  
Deputy City Manager

cc: Representative Winnie Brinks  
Representative Laura Cox