

AGENDA ITEM 7.E.

RE: Cooperative Agreement between City of Laredo Fire Department and Laredo College

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: For information only.

BACKGROUND: This Cooperative Agreement of Affiliation establishes a partnership between Laredo College and the Laredo Fire Department to provide a Level 1 Certificate in Leadership for fire department personnel. The program is designed to enhance leadership competencies, communication, ethical decision-making, conflict management, and organizational effectiveness through a structured 16-semester credit hour curriculum delivered in a hybrid format. Coursework will be facilitated by qualified Laredo College faculty and includes applied learning activities tailored to public safety operations, supporting workforce readiness and professional advancement within the department.

The agreement outlines responsibilities for both parties, including the College's role in delivering instruction, academic advising, and ensuring compliance with accreditation and institutional policies, and the Fire Department's role in supporting employee participation and providing access to resources for applied training. It also addresses student admissions, academic standards, tuition and billing processes, and compliance with state and federal regulations. The partnership promotes career pathway advancement, allowing participants to transition into associate and bachelor's degree programs, while strengthening leadership capacity within the local public safety workforce.

The agreement is attached.

BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS: None.

CONTACT PERSONS:

Dr. Minita Ramírez, President

Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina, Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs