

RESOLUTION NO: 119 - 2019
INTRODUCED BY: Henry

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
TO PARTICIPATE IN AN EXPANDED REGIONAL FIRE
INVESTIGATION UNIT, FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE "HILLCREST
REGIONAL FIRE INVESTIGATION STRIKE FORCE" AND NOW TO
BE NAMED THE "HILLCREST-HEIGHTS REGIONAL FIRE
INVESTIGATION UNIT", AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
CHIEF OF FIRE TO EXECUTE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT
DOCUMENTS THEREFOR.**

WHEREAS, the municipalities of Beachwood, Euclid, Gates Mills, Highland Heights, Lyndhurst, Mayfield Heights, Mayfield, Pepper Pike, Richmond Heights and South Euclid entered into a cooperative agreement in 2012 setting forth the terms, conditions, rights, duties and obligations of each relative to the establishment of a team of fire investigators, together with allied resources, to apply high intensity investigation efforts to establish the causes of fires in those municipalities;

WHEREAS, said group is known as the Hillcrest Regional Fire Investigation Strike Force;

WHEREAS, the participating municipalities developed the Strike Force to meet the needs of each municipality regarding the investigation and detection of the causes of fire with a goal of reducing arson-related activities;

WHEREAS, the Cities of Cleveland Heights, Shaker Heights and University Heights desire to join the Regional Strike Force and the consent of all current members, including the City of Richmond Heights, is needed for the new memberships and the execution of a new cooperative agreement is necessary therefor;

WHEREAS, the proposed name of the newly-formed fire investigation strike force is the "Hillcrest-Heights Regional Fire Investigation Unit";

WHEREAS, the newly-formed Unit will not subject the City of Richmond Heights to a higher annual membership fee, which is currently at \$500;

WHEREAS, this Council supports the added memberships of the three cities and the continued cooperative efforts of the fire investigation unit;

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it Resolved by the Council of the City of Richmond Heights, State of Ohio, that:

Section 1. This Council authorizes the City of Richmond Heights to continue to participate in the cooperative organization now known as the "Hillcrest-Heights Regional Fire Investigation Unit" with the addition of the Cities of Cleveland Heights, Shaker Heights and University Heights to its membership and hereby authorizes the Mayor and the Chief of Fire to execute the cooperative agreement, entitled "The Hillcrest-Heights Regional Fire Investigation Unit (HHRFIU) Agreement for Fire Origin and Cause Investigation Services", and its addendum thereto.

Section 2. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force at the earliest time permitted by law.

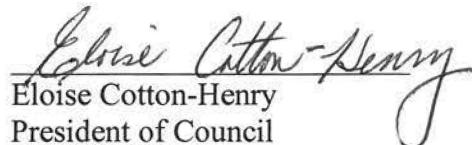
PASSED: Nov. 26, 2019



David H. Roche, Mayor

APPROVED: Nov. 26, 2019

ATTEST: Betsy Traben
Betsy Traben
Clerk of Council



Eloise Cotton-Henry
President of Council