City of Joplin City Council Agenda Item

REQUESTED COUNCIL MEETING DATE: MARCH 7, 2016

ITEM: COUNCIL BILL NO. 2016-450

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: HEALTH DEPARTMENT
ATTACHMENT: COUNCIL BILL

Health Director: Dan Pekarek
Finance Director: Leslie Haase
City Attorney: Peter Edwards
City Manager: Sam Anselm

INTRODUCTION:
This Council Bill approves the termination of participation in an Intergovernmental Mutual Aid Agreement for Local Public Health Agencies of the State of Missouri.

DISCUSSION:
In early 2015 a workgroup associated with the state health department and local health departments proposed a statewide mutual aid agreement for local health departments in Missouri. The agreement was envisioned as a first step toward establishing a process for mutual aid provision in the event of a public health emergency exceeding the capacity of any local health agency. As the workgroup continued its work in the development of operational procedures for the agreement, it was determined that there were limitations to that agreement and that it would be advantageous to move toward participation in the statewide Missouri Systems Concept Of Operational Planning For Emergencies (MoSCOPE). The MoSCOPE plan is a planning agreement allowed by state statute and already includes other agencies frequently associated with community emergency response (Fire, Police, EMS, K-9, Coroners). MoSCOPE establishes procedures for mutual aid response of various agencies in the event of an emergency exceeding local capabilities. By becoming part of MoSCOPE, public health agencies would become part of a more unified system of response to emergencies. As a potential emergency response agency, state statute provides for automatic participation of local health departments in MoSCOPE unless an agency opts out of that agreement.

RECOMMENDATION:
City Staff recommends this Council Bill be approved on an emergency basis.