

RESOLUTION NO. 491

REQUESTING THE ALBANY COUNTY SHERIFF TO UNDERTAKE A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF THE ENHANCED 911 INFRASTRUCTURE IN ALBANY COUNTY

Introduced: 10/9/18

By: Mr. A. Joyce, Messrs. Feeney, O'Brien, Burgdorf and Mauriello

WHEREAS, The Albany County Sheriff's Office has primary responsibility for the establishment of the emergency call center facilities and dispatching of all first responder services in Albany County, and

WHEREAS, Wireless cellular service in many geographic pockets of this County from Colonie, Cohoes, Slingerlands to the Hilltowns has recently significantly deteriorated, and

WHEREAS, More and more consumers and businesses are choosing to "cut the cord" and replace landlines entirely with cellular phones and/or rely on Wi-Fi based VoIP services, and

WHEREAS, This rapid transformation in how citizens communicate with emergency responders requires an equitably rapid response from government in order to ensure all of its citizens have immediate access to emergency first responder services, and

WHEREAS, It has become apparent that the current infrastructure sponsored by telecommunications firms has become overloaded and appears to be inadequate for the bandwidth required by certain areas of Albany County to protect the life, health, and safety of our residents, and

WHEREAS, The inclusion of all requisite stakeholders including our EMTs, first responders, and PSAP operators is essential for developing a long-term comprehensive solution for this issue, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Albany County Sheriff is hereby requested to conduct a comprehensive study of the Enhanced 911 infrastructure in Albany County which shall include, but not be limited to, identification of weak coverage areas, call data collection and analysis, solicitation of public input, and recommendations for further action, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Albany County Sheriff shall consider holding public hearings, meeting with cellular carriers and their respective regulatory agencies, partnering with other public and private entities which may have existing cellular infrastructure or technology, and identifying remediation techniques to improve and enhance the existing cellular system as part of this process, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That every ninety (90) days after the passage of this Resolution, the Sheriff shall brief the Legislature on the status of said study until said study is completed and delivered as a written report to the whole Legislature, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the County Legislature is directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the appropriate Local, County, and State Officials.

Referred to Public Safety Committee - 10/9/18