



MEETING OF OCTOBER 17, 2023

TO: Mayor Jordan and City Council
THRU: Jonathan Curth, Development Services Director
FROM: Becca Bertram, Ops & Customer Relations Mgr
DATE:
SUBJECT: Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission Membership

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of a membership with the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission for each year from 2024 through 2028.

BACKGROUND:

The Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission provides a wide range of planning, administrative, and technical services to member governments. Membership also enables eligibility for federal aid distributed to member jurisdictions in Washington and Benton counties for transportation projects of regional significance.

DISCUSSION:

The City of Fayetteville's participation and representation in regional affairs is critical to the future of Northwest Arkansas. Per the attached memo, approximately \$117 million has been awarded for projects, and \$24,925,692 of that amount has been specifically awarded to Fayetteville since 2013. In addition to federal aid eligibility, membership with the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission provides the City an avenue for regional dialogue and cooperation.

BUDGET/STAFF IMPACT:

The membership fee for 2024 is \$79,856.65. At the August 23, 2023 RPC/Policy Committee meeting, the Board approved a new fee structure, changing the rate from \$0.70 per capita to \$0.85 per capita for the ten largest jurisdictions with a population of 9,000 and greater; and continued the higher \$1/capita rate for the 25 smaller jurisdictions with populations below 9,000. This money has been budgeted in the General Fund.

ATTACHMENTS: SRF (#3), NWARPC Membership Memo (#4)