



To: Becky Stinchcomb, Mayor

City Council

City Attorney

From: James R. Williams, Director of Emergency Operations

Subject: Report to Council June 8, 2015

As requested at the Council Committee meeting on May 26, 2015, I am reporting to council after completing the Everbridge Mass Notification System training. I was accompanied by Jennifer Hamilton a chief user of the notification system. After completing the training, I can report that:

- a. There is no limitation as to the minutes or times used in the Everbridge system as opposed to the minute limit with Code Red.
- b. There is a greater mapping capability with Everbridge to allow for shaping areas of notification and the City of Gahanna is currently in the Everbridge mapping system.
- c. There are multiple user accounts for Gahanna to log into the Everbridge system to send notifications.
- d. Notifications can use text to voice automatically without telephone-recorded messages if we wish.
- e. Notifications are easier to compose and send. There is no launch code and pin to send a message.
- f. Templates can be made for messages that may need to be sent often.
- g. Gahanna residents will continue to receive weather warnings by text, voice and e-mail.

The Code Red contract has been discussed by the City Attorney and the Code Red legal staff. It has been determined that Gahanna is required to be in the Code Red system until July 11, 2016. This is a good thing in that it will allow Gahanna residents to have a period of one year to completely transition to the Everbridge system and will allow for a longer marketing period to reach out to our residents. The requirements of the Countywide Agreement with Franklin County require our fiscal support of the County Agency through the proportionate share method of tax duplicated and population data.

A significant factor in switching to Everbridge is the cost savings to the city. In the 2016 appropriation, the city will save almost \$9,000 by moving from Code Red to Everbridge.

I recommend that Council approve the \$ 8,000 supplemental request to allow for the continuation of the Code Red contract as legally required while we complete the conversion to the Everbridge system.