



CITY OF NOVI CITY COUNCIL
MARCH 22, 2021

SUBJECT: Approval of the Automatic Mutual Aid Fire Department Agreement between the City of Novi and Salem Township.

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: Public Safety, Fire Department

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The City of Novi Fire Department and the Salem Township Fire Department propose to enter into an Automatic Mutual Aid Agreement (AMA). The AMA agreement with Salem Township will provide an engine or tender with two (2) firefighters and send it automatically to any confirmed structure fire (e.g., multiple calls of smoke/flames visible) in the southwest sectors of Napier Road. In return, Novi will automatically provide a fire engine or tender with two (2) firefighters to Salem Township along the northeast sectors of Eight Mile Road.

The City of Novi Fire Department currently has AMA agreements with the City of Wixom, City of Northville, Northville Township, City of Walled Lake, and Farmington Hills. All have proven to be highly effective.

The City of Novi legal counsel has reviewed this matter and finds no legal impediment which precluding the City of Novi from executing the agreement.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval of the Automatic Mutual Aid Fire Department Agreement between the City of Novi and Salem Township.

JOELLEN SHORTLEY
jshortley@rsjalaw.com

27555 Executive Drive, Suite 250
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48331
P 248.489.4100 | F 248.489.1726
rsjalaw.com



ROSATI | SCHULTZ
JOPPICH | AMTSBUECHLER

March 3, 2021

VIA E-MAIL: jjohnson@cityofnovi.org

Chief Jeffery R. Johnson
City of Novi
45175 10 Mile Rd.
Novi, MI 48375

Re: Automatic Mutual Aid (AMA) Fire Agreement between Novi and
Salem Township Fire Departments

Dear Chief Johnson,

I reviewed the Automatic Mutual Aid (AMA) Fire Agreement between Novi and Salem Township Fire Departments which was provided to us on March 2, 2021 for review. There are no legal issues of concern.

Very truly yours,

ROSATI SCHULTZ JOPPICH
& AMTSBUECHLER PC

Joellen Shortley

Joellen Shortley

JS/jes

MEMORANDUM



TO: DAVID E. MOLLOY, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY/
CHIEF OF POLICE

FROM: JEFFERY R. JOHNSON, FIRE CHIEF JRD

SUBJECT: AUTOMATIC MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

DATE: MARCH 8, 2021

The City of Novi Fire Department and the Salem Township Fire Department proposes to enter into an Automatic Mutual Aid Agreement (AMA). This agreement is different than the Oakland County and Western Wayne Inter-Local / Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) Agreements which the City of Novi has already approved by Resolution. The difference with MABAS is that multiple alarms have to be called when a structure fire or other large-scale event requires more resources (e.g., 2nd, 3rd, 4th or 5th alarm). With AMA, the resources are automatically provided at no cost. The AMA agreement with Salem Township will provide an engine or tender and send it automatically to any confirmed structure fire (e.g., multiple calls of smoke/flames visible) in the southwest sectors of Napier Road. In return, Novi will automatically provide a fire engine or tender with two firefighters to Salem Township along the northeast sectors of Eight Mile Road.

Reasons for AMA:

- Immediate response of a minimum 2-person firefighting crew with fire apparatus to structure fires.
- Can utilize crew for initial fire attack or rapid intervention team to back firefighting crews (two in-two out) and provides immediate resources without having to take extra steps to call and further delay the response.
- Safer operations by having the extra resource and personnel to back-up the initial fire attack will help both fire departments meet the National Fire Protection Association recommend standard for minimum staffing and crews to effectively operate at a working structure fire.
- Insurance Service Office (ISO) rating schedule utilized by the insurance industry recognizes communities with AMA and count these additional resources in the overall rating schedule. This may help to reduce the City of Novi's fire rating.
- The locations of assets from a neighboring community are closer to respond and assist one another.

It is my recommendation the City of Novi proceed with entering into an automatic aid agreement as reviewed by our city attorney with no legal issues of concern. This agreement emulates the AMA agreements with the City of Wixom, City of Northville, Northville Township, City of Walled Lake and Farmington Hills that have all proven to be highly effective.

C. John B. Martin, Assistant Fire Chief

STATE OF MICHIGAN

COUNTY OF OAKLAND AND WASHTENAW

AGREEMENT FOR AUTOMATIC MUTUAL AID

This Agreement is between the City of Novi, a Michigan municipal corporation, whose address is 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375, and Salem Township, a Michigan municipal corporation, whose address is 9600 Six Mile Road, PO Box 75002, Salem, MI 48175, effective on the last date of the signatures set forth below.

R E C I T A L S:

The City of Novi and Salem Township both staff and maintain fire station(s) for the safety and protection of the lives and property within their respective jurisdictions; and

In order to provide the most appropriate service response to its residents, the City of Novi and Salem Township desire to enter into an agreement whereby each entity may render automatic mutual aid to each other for certain defined incidents; and

More specifically, the City of Novi and Salem Township seek to provide automatic response with at least an engine or tender company with 2 personnel for confirmed structure fires.

The parties have agreed to set forth guidelines for such automatic mutual aid.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby agreed as follows:

1. Definitions. For purposes of this Agreement, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below:
 - a. "Automatic Mutual Aid Response" shall mean the automatic response by the Responding City/Township of the closest available resources via emergency dispatch to a request for response by the Requesting City/Township.
 - b. "Confirmed Structure Fire" shall be identified as first person caller, police officer or firefighter on scene, or multiple calls to dispatch or PSAP.

In Salem Township, a confirmed structure fire in accessible areas of sections 1, 2, 3 and 4.

In Novi, confirmed structure fires in accessible areas of sections 29, 30, 31 and 32.

2. Request for Assistance. The Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) communications dispatching center for each municipality will confirm the structure fire from a caller, police or fire personnel. Either City/Township is authorized at any time to request Automatic Mutual Aid Response from the other City/Township. The request shall be directed to the authorized PSAP of the City/Township being called to respond.

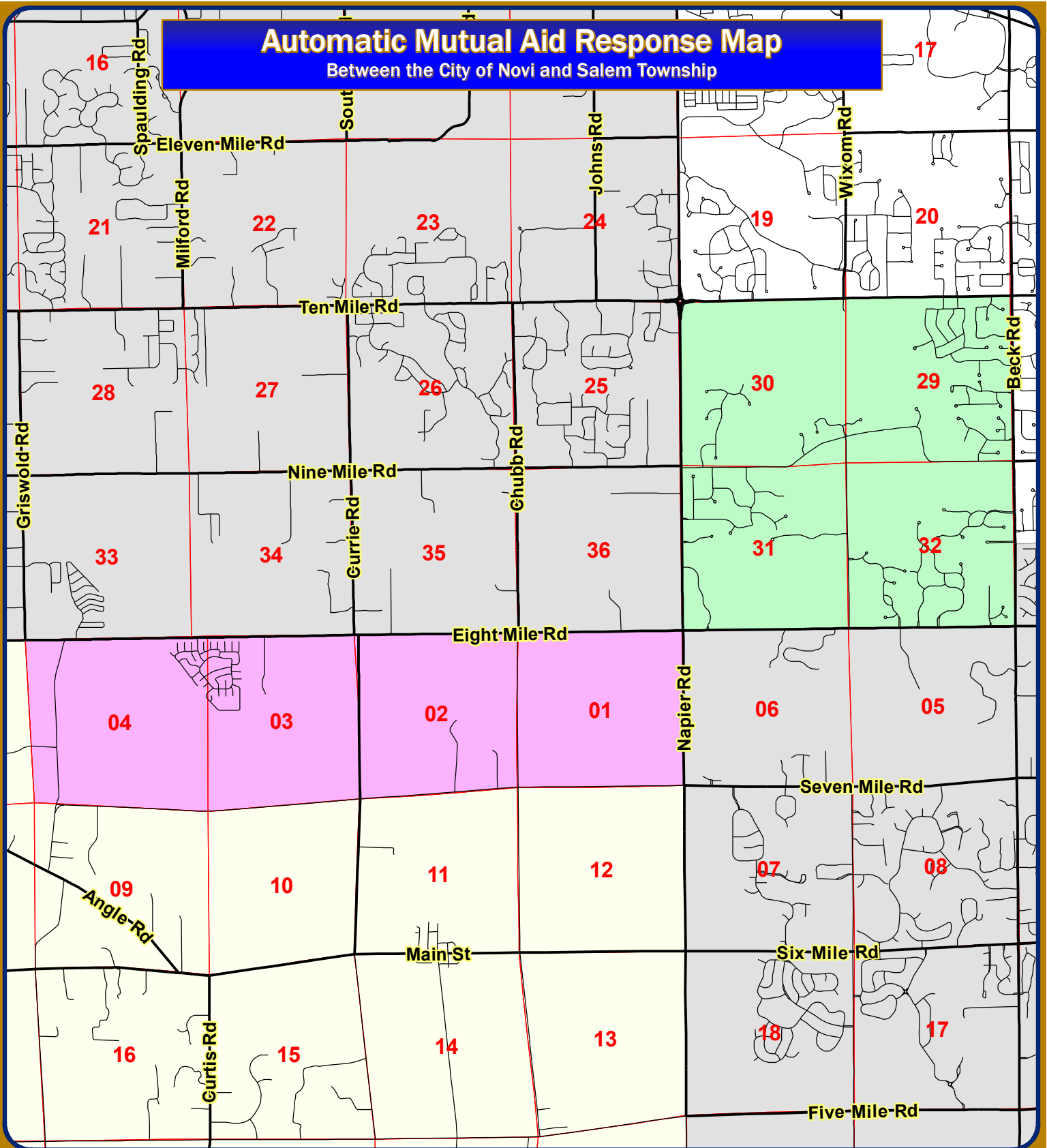
The request for Automatic Mutual Aid Response shall specify the amount and type of equipment and number of personnel required, and shall specify the location to which the equipment and personnel are to be dispatched.

3. Response to Request. Upon receipt of a request for Automatic Mutual Aid Response, the commanding officer of the Responding City/Township shall:
 - a. Immediately advise the Requesting City/Township if the equipment and personnel are not available.
4. Command Responsibility at Emergency Scene. The incident commander of the Requesting City/Township at the scene of the emergency to which an Automatic Mutual Aid Response is made shall be in command of the operations under which the equipment and personnel sent by the Responding City/Township shall serve; provided, however, that the responding equipment and personnel shall be under the immediate supervision of the officer in charge of the responding apparatus.
5. Responsibility for Employees. Each City/Township agrees to be responsible for disability and workers' compensation benefits, including derivative benefits, dependent benefits or other benefits related to disability and workers' compensation benefits, for its own employees.
6. Liability. Each City/Township shall be responsible for any claims made against that City/Township and for the acts of its employees or agents.

In any claims that may arise from the performance of this Agreement, each City/Township shall seek its own legal representation and bear the costs associated with such representation, including attorney fees. Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, neither City/Township shall have any right, under any legal principle, to be indemnified by the other City/Township or any of its employees or agents in connection with any claim. This Agreement does not, and is not intended to, impair, divest, delegate, or contravene any constitutional, statutory, and/or other legal right, privilege, power, obligation, duty or immunity of the City/Township. All of the privileges and immunities from liability, and exemptions from laws, ordinances, and rules which apply to the activities of parties, officers, agencies, and employees of any governmental agency when performing its functions, shall apply to the same degree and extent to the performance of such functions and duties under the provisions of this Agreement. No provision of this Agreement is intended, nor shall any provision of this Agreement be construed, as a waiver by either City/Township of governmental immunity as provided under law.

Automatic Mutual Aid Response Map

Between the City of Novi and Salem Township



Map Author: Keri Blough
 Date: February 24, 2021
 Project: Automatic Mutual Aid Response
 Version #: 1.0

MAP INTERPRETATION NOTICE

Map information depicted is not intended to replace or substitute for any official or primary source. This map was intended to meet National Map Accuracy Standards and use the most recent, accurate sources available to the people of the City of Novi. Boundary measurements and area calculations are approximate and should not be construed as survey measurements performed by a licensed Michigan Surveyor as defined in Michigan Public Act 132 of 1970 as amended. Please contact the City GIS Manager to confirm source and accuracy information related to this map.

Fire Mutual Aid Response Areas

- Novi Area with Salem Twp Response
- Salem Twp with Novi Response

Municipal Boundary

- City of Novi
- Salem Twp



City of Novi

Integrated Solutions Team
 Geospatial Resources Division
 45175 W Ten Mile Rd
 Novi, MI 48375
 cityofnovi.org

