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**GLENDALE COUNCIL ADOPTS RESOLUTION
ASKING FEDS TO SUPPORT POLICE & FIRE
IN NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS ISSUE**

GLENDALE, Ariz. – On Tuesday, Sept. 28, the Glendale City Council approved a resolution supporting federal legislation that would affect emergency communications between police and firefighters in Glendale and throughout the country. Glendale’s council approved a resolution that urges the federal government to protect vital communication airwaves by allocating 10 MHz of the 700 MHz broadband spectrum known as the D-Block directly to public safety.

The broadband spectrum includes the airwaves and communication space allotted for police and fire from different agencies to communicate with each other on radios and other electronic devices. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) currently plans to auction off the D-block to private businesses for commercial purposes. Glendale’s elected officials, police and fire departments along with multiple public safety agencies across the country are against auctioning off this portion of the airwaves saying more technological communication space is needed for first responders, especially in the event of a large-scale emergency or disaster.

“Technology and communication are critical factors in our day-to-day job in public safety,” said Steve Conrad, Glendale Police Chief. “In our country’s recent history, we have seen too many examples of communication issues that hampered emergency response efforts. That’s why we are united on this issue to make sure

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public safety departments across the country have adequate space on the airwaves.”

“During an emergency firefighters and police officers must be able to communicate directly with each other whether in the same city or across the Valley or state, and increasing public safety’s portion of the broadband network will strengthen our ability to do so.” said Mark Burdick, Glendale Fire Chief.

On Sept.7, 2010, Glendale’s City Council addressed this issue in formal letters to Glendale’s congressional delegation, including: U.S. Sen. John McCain, U.S. Sen. Jon Kyl, U.S. Rep. Trent Franks and U.S. Rep. Ed Pastor. The letters asked the delegation to oppose the proposed commercial auction of the 700 MHz D-Block and support legislation to reallocate the D-Block portion of the spectrum to public safety.

Glendale joins the National League of Cities, the National Association of Counties, the US Conference of Mayors and the International City/County Management Association in wanting to ensure a national communications network asset is preserved for public safety uses.

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