

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE September 3, 2021

TO Honorable Mayor and City Council

SUBJECT **Upcoming Agenda Item Number 22 for the Regional Cyber Fusion Center - North Texas Threat Center**

On September 9, 2021, the City Council will consider agenda item 22 to create a regional Cyber Fusion Center. This center will gather, manage, and disseminate threat intelligence and data from a variety of collaborative cybersecurity sources, including local, state, federal, and global partner sources, beneficial to the City of Dallas and North Texas. The center will share the outcomes of advanced threat data for the City, neighboring Cities in Dallas Fort Worth Area, trusted partners, and resident business subscribers.

Specifically, the agenda item authorizes a two-year acquisition contract for the purchase of initial licenses and implementation of a regional cyber threat intelligence fusion center solution and a five-year service price agreement for additional licenses, maintenance, and support services. It is financed by an Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant, obtained by Information and Technology Services and the Office of Emergency Management.

Using the Cyber Fusion Center's global data repositories, the City can proactively automate and orchestrate security protections through its own security technologies and understand the overall threat landscape. Participating cities will collaborate remotely and take a collective defense approach to common threats. The cooperative defense approach uses a single integrated system and drives faster incident response. The Centers' joint defense approach also enables security teams from neighboring and participating cities to share threat intelligence.

Thank you for your support of this important project. I want to thank Bill Zielinski, Chief Information Officer, and Dr. Brian Gardner, Chief Information Security Officer, for their work to bring a regional Cyber Fusion Center to Dallas. As global cyberthreats increase exponentially, this is a critical element of our proactive strategy to protect the City and our residents, businesses, and neighbors. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M. Elizabeth Reich".

M. Elizabeth Reich  
Chief Financial Officer

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager  
Chris Caso, City Attorney  
Mark Swann, City Auditor  
Billerae Johnson, City Secretary  
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge  
Kimberly Bizar Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager  
Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager  
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager  
Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services  
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion  
Directors and Assistant Directors