



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** RES 22-1318, **Version:** 1

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Authorizing the City of Saint Paul to enter into the Fencing Consortium Joint Powers Agreement for the purpose of leasing anti-scalable fencing as a de-escalation tool and a public safety measure.

WHEREAS, cities throughout the state have experienced an increased incidence of civil unrest involving violence, and destruction of property, threatening public safety, city personnel, its buildings, and critical infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the City of Saint Paul supports the rights of all its residents to peacefully assemble, protects freedom of speech and the press afforded by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution; and to petition the government for a redress of grievances; and

WHEREAS, cities have recognized the need to have ready access to anti-scalable fencing as a tool for de-escalation and community safety while protecting against threats of violence and destruction of property; and

WHEREAS, recent experience has shown that the use of anti-scale fencing has greatly de-escalated tension between law enforcement and incidents of civil unrest; and

WHEREAS, by de-escalating the tension, the anti-scale fencing helps to reduce the trauma on the community, improve the safety for all, minimize the impact on neighboring properties, and reduce the community resources that have to be committed to such events; and

WHEREAS, the best means for cities to access anti-scale fencing in a timely and cost-effective manner is to work cooperatively with other cities in the state; and

WHEREAS, the Fencing Consortium Joint Powers Agreement ("Fencing JPA"), which is incorporated herein by reference, establishes a joint board to obtain and make available to members anti-scalable fencing in response to critical incidences, sets out the powers of the joint board, requires members to pay their share of the fencing costs and operational costs of the Fencing Consortium, requires members to provide staffing to assemble and disassemble the fencing as part of the Public Works Mutual Aid Pact, and otherwise provides for the operation of the Fencing Consortium as a joint powers entity; and

WHEREAS, the City of Saint Paul is a member of the Public Works Mutual Aid Pact and is otherwise eligible to adopt the Fencing JPA; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it is in the best interests of public safety to the community to become a member and participate in the Fencing Consortium; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED,

1. The Fencing JPA is hereby approved and adopted.
2. The Deputy Mayor or designee is authorized and directed to make nominations and to cast votes on persons to be elected to the Fencing Consortium Board of Directors.
3. Staff are authorized and directed to do each of the following:

- a. Submit a fully executed copy of this Resolution as directed in the Fencing JPA to indicate membership in the Fencing Consortium;
- b. Designate a primary and secondary point of contact for the Fencing Consortium for administrative purposes.
- c. Coordinate with the other Fencing Consortium members and the Board on the selection of staff from the public works department to serve on the fencing deployment team; and
- d. To take such other actions as may be needed to carry out the intent of this Resolution and as may be required under the terms of the Fencing JPA.