



DATE: April 12, 2021

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

FROM: Dave Perrault, City Administrator

SUBJECT: Authorize City Administrator to Enter into a Closest Unit Agreement with Vadnais Heights Fire Department

Budgeted Amount:	Actual Amount:	Funding Source:
N/A	N/A	N/A

Council Should Consider

Motions to approve, table, or deny the following:

- Authorize the City Administrator to send a letter to the Lake Johanna Fire Department to enter into a Closest Unit Agreement with the Vadnais Heights Fire Department.

All items need a simple majority for action unless otherwise noted.

Discussion

The Vadnais Heights Fire Department is interested in entering into a Closest Unit Agreement with surrounding cities. The below summary was provided by Chief Boehlke:

The City of Vadnais Heights has decided they would like to join the “Closest Unit Dispatching” agreement with surrounding Cities. The City of Vadnais Heights will need a letter from Arden Hills, Shoreview and North Oaks simply stating that you are Authorizing them to be part of the agreement for reciprocal services. Currently the Closest Unit Dispatching is for Cardiac Arrest calls, Structure Fires and Water Emergencies. The way this might work is that an Engine from Lake Johanna is driving on Rice Street and in the city of Vadnais Heights, they are dispatched to a Cardiac Arrest call. The AVL that is built in the CAD computers in the Engine sees that the Lake Johanna Engine is closer to the Cardiac Arrest call than the Vadnais Heights unit.... The Lake Johanna Engine is automatically added to the call along with the Vadnais Heights units. Lake Johanna has Automatic Aid for Structure Fires with all of our neighboring departments in Ramsey County, so the Closest unit dispatching really applies more to Cardiac Arrest calls and water emergencies.

To move this forward, City Council would need to authorize the City Administrator to send a letter to the Lake Johanna Fire Department authorizing them to be part of the agreement. Note, we have this agreement already established with neighboring cities in Ramsey County, Vadnais Heights is the only remaining city. If the Council approves this item, the City Administrator will provide LJFD with the needed notice. Attached to this memo is the Closest Unit Agreement that Vadnais Heights will be

signing for reference. We are NOT signing this document, our responsibility is a simple letter to LJFD.

Budget Impact

N/A

Attachment

Attachment A: Closest Unit Agreement for Vadnais Heights Fire Department