City Council Item

February 23, 2026

Item	Fire Station Space Needs Assessment Presentation	
File No.		**Item No:** A.1
Agenda Section	**5:30 P.M. - WORK SESSION**	
Prepared By	Andrew Heger, Fire Chief	
Reviewed By		

SUGGESTED ACTION N/A	
Motion Type	N/A
Strategic Priority	Operational Excellence

SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

The City of Chanhassen periodically reviews its fire station facilities to ensure they meet operational needs and community expectations. In 2021, a citywide facility assessment evaluated the physical condition and maintenance requirements of municipal buildings, including the fire station. However, that assessment did not address future staffing capacity, modern firefighter health and safety standards, or service delivery considerations.

To address these gaps, the City Council authorized a dedicated fire station facility needs study, engaging CNH Architects for their expertise in fire station design and operational planning. The study included a comprehensive review of the existing facility's infrastructure, space utilization, and compliance with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards, as well as input from fire department staff to reflect current operations and anticipated changes.

Recognizing that property had previously been secured for a potential future station in the southern part of the community, the study also examined long-term service delivery and infrastructure needs. Four scenarios were developed:

1. Remodel the existing facility
2. Construct a new centrally located facility
3. Build a new headquarters and remodel the current station as a satellite
4. Build a new headquarters and an additional satellite station

Staff has not recommended a scenario at this time and is not seeking council direction at this time. Facility planning is contingent on projected staffing levels and the number of planned stations. With greater insight into facility needs and available options, staff suggests the next steps are continued work on these two facets. We anticipate much of this work to be completed internally and completed in the next six months.

This initiative aligns with the City's Strategic Plan, which prioritizes operational excellence, asset management, and infrastructure planning to support long-term service goals. The fire station space needs analysis provides an evidence-based foundation for future decisions regarding capital investments and public safety enhancements.

DISCUSSION

BUDGET

There is no immediate budget impacts related to the findings of this report. The information in this report will aid in future planning needs related to staffing, service delivery, and facility needs.

To further assess the service delivery outcomes of each of the four scenarios, staff are reviewing several software options which would aid in that process. Any request for software needs in support of this initiative would come back to the council for consideration at a future meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

ATTACHMENTS

Chanhassen Fire Station Facility Study
Chanhassen Fire Facility Study - Council Presentation 2026-02-17