

Memorandum

TO: City Council
FROM: Brad Martens , City Manager
DATE: September 2, 2025
SUBJECT: Lake Johanna Fire Department update
ITEM NUMBER: 5.a
SECTION: PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

REQUESTED MOTION

INTRODUCTION

The Lake Johanna Fire Department provides fire, emergency medical services, emergency management, and rescue services to the cities of Shoreview, Arden Hills, and North Oaks. Chief Tim Boehlke will provide an update to the city council including an overview of their recently updated strategic plan.

DISCUSSION

The City of Shoreview has contracted for service with the Lake Johanna Fire Department (LJFD) since the city came into existence in 1957. The partnership with LJFD as well as Arden Hills and North Oaks has resulted in effective, efficient, and affordable services to our community. Over the last decade or so however additional challenges have arose along with increased service calls and demands on the fire department requiring additional investments including the current construction of a new headquarters fire station in Arden Hills. In order to continue to provide these important services in a high quality manner into the future, the Lake Johanna Fire Department has drafted an updated strategic plan which is attached to this report and will be presented to the city council.

The strategic report identifies the following goals and challenges:

- Goal: Ensure effective emergency response to fire and medical emergencies in our contract cities
 - Challenge: Difficulty in filling vacant shifts for staffing at all three stations
- Goal: Adapt to the challenges of a growing organization
 - Challenge: Administrative needs are outpacing our current capacity
- Goal: Deliver quality community risk reduction and emergency preparedness
 - Providing inspections, plan reviews, and pre-fire planning to our growing cities
- Goal: Identify and implement changes for operational improvement
 - Challenge: Provide quality emergency medical services to the community
- Goal: Assure facilities and fleet are maintained and replaced to meet the needs of communities
 - Challenge: Maintaining a fleet and facilities operationally efficient for staff

Chief Boehlke will present this information to the city council as well as outlining strategies to

meet these goals and challenges which have financial and service implications to the City of Shoreview.

RECOMMENDATION

ATTACHMENTS

[LJFD STRATEGIC PLAN_v10.pdf](#)