

ITEM: Safety Center Taskforce Update

SUMMARY

The City Council approved the formation of a Safety Center Taskforce January 26, 2009 and completed appointments to the taskforce on February 2, 2009. The Taskforce mission statement:

The Task Force Committee will meet regularly to research, analyze data, and define facility space needs, building locations, and financing and ultimately make a report clearly defining public safety needs to the City Council.

WORK PLAN:

The outline of tasks to be undertaken by the Task Force committee is:

1. Provide a recommendation on building size by confirming the growth assumptions, reviewing the immediate space needs and estimating future departments' growth, assessing outside agencies needs, and confirming needs versus wants.
2. Provide a recommendation on a selected site by confirming the operational model, considering "response time", and assessing the pro's and con's for each identified site.
3. Provide a recommendation on financing by reviewing the referendum model, investigating potential grant opportunities, and evaluate possible partnering with outside agencies.
4. These recommendations will be provided to the City Council within a 60 to 90 day time frame with updates provided on the work completed provided to the council at 30 day intervals.

The Task Force is comprised of 11 community members that include:

1. *Council Member Kris Vohs*
2. *Council Member Jon Denison*
3. *Police Chief Mark Taylor*
4. *Fire Chief Gary Franek*
5. *Planning Commissioner Mr. Greg Colby*
6. *Mr. Fred Rogers*
7. *Mr. Jerry Anderson, Rural Fire Fighters*
8. *Mr. Ray Cox*
9. *Mr. David Hvistendahl*
10. *Ms. Janelle Teppen*
11. *Mr. Andy Yurek, Hospital/Ambulance*

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

The Safety Center Taskforce has modified the initial list of guiding principles and strategies for implementation for the development of a new safety center site:

- *The facility should be economically affordable for the community with a financial plan that is realistic.*
- *The facility should be designed to foster partnering with colleges and townships.*
- *The building or buildings should provide for operational efficiencies.*
- To have a Safety Center that reflects community history.
- To have a Safety Center that, by design, provides customer service.
- To have a facility that is easily accessible by the public.
- The facility by design and look displays a professional public safety image.
- The facility is designed for efficient and organized public safety services.
- The facility is located in a neighborhood that is a good fit for public safety.
- The facility meets the public safety needs of the community for today and fifteen to twenty-years into the future.
- The facility provides work area for assisting other agencies.
- The building is designed to provide a safe and healthy work environment for staff, as well as being safe for the public.
- The building is built to be energy efficient and ecologically friendly.
- *The facility should be economically affordable for the community with a financial plan that is realistic.*
- *The facility should be designed to foster partnering with colleges and townships.*
- *The building or buildings should provide for operational efficiencies.*
- *The building or buildings should be accessible to the community and provide space for community access and usage.*

SUMMARY OF WORK COMPLETED:

The Safety Center Taskforce has completed the following tasks:

- Complete review of previous planning efforts.
- Toured the existing Safety Center.
- Reviewed and modified the Guiding Principles for the project.
- Discussed growth and how it relates to building size.
- Discussed needs versus wants and confirmed the space program.
- Toured comparable Police and Fire facilities.
- Reviewed building cost data for comparable Police and Fire facilities.
- Reviewed financing options and tax impact data.
- Reviewed ISO and PPC ratings and what impact location may have on the ratings.
- Discussed the site selection process and potential building sites.

SUBMITTED BY: *J. Walinski, City Administrator*
John McNamara, Wold Architects