Greetings.

Please find enclosed materials that will be presented and discussed at the Joint City-County Meeting Monday, August 28, 2023. I wanted you to have time to review the materials prior to the meeting.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you.
Invitation to Participate in a Feasibility Study to Assess Unifying the Clark County and the City of Winchester Fire Departments

Presentation to a Joint Meeting of the Clark County Fiscal Court and Winchester City Commission
Monday, August 28, 2023

Opportunity: Unified Fire/EMS

- County, City and GCF share goal of ensuring high quality services for all residents of Clark County.
- Concurrence of timing = opportunity to think big and do something that will benefit the entire county.
- Unifying City and County Fire/EMS would provide real, tangible, and long-lasting benefits to all residents of Winchester and Clark County regardless of where they live.
Anticipated Benefits

- Unified strategic plan -- one common vision for the entire County with all resources aligned toward that vision.
- Unified organizational structure – consistent SOP, better staffing, stronger career path for employees
- Better rescue capabilities
- Streamlined communications
- Reduce or eliminate redundant capacity.
- Efficient, consistent, high level of service across the entire geography of Clark County.

GCF’s Interest in this issue

- GCF believes the fate of all people is woven together. We look for opportunities to inspire vision and action for a compelling future.
- Residents need to see that the County and City can work together effectively on forward-looking projects with shared vision and common goals. This project is a chance to do that.
- Common sense solution to a challenge faced by both County and City.
Incentives for Joint Fire/EMS

- GCF, County and City jointly share in costs of Fire/EMS unification feasibility assessment.
- If unification is feasible, GCF willing to provide land to incentivize this municipal collaboration and support the goal of unifying the departments.
- $2 million in savings on land acquisition between County and City.

Approach

- Request that the City and County participate in good faith in a feasibility study to assess if merging the two fire departments is a worthwhile endeavor.
- GCF willing to fund 70% of the study and willing to hold and administer the contract. Asking City and County to contribute the remaining 30% (15% each, not to exceed $25,000).
- Will use feasibility study will determine next steps.
- Invite us to resist getting too far ahead of ourselves in terms of “what if?” and “who’s in charge?” questions.
Roles and Responsibilities

- Draft RFP: Greater Clark Foundation
- Final RFP Approval: City, County, GCF
- Initial Vendor Screening: GCF
- Vendor Recommendation: Feasibility Study Committee
- Final Vendor Selection: Fiscal Court & City Commission
- Contract Administration: Greater Clark Foundation
- Scope of Work Oversight: Feasibility Study Committee
- Final Report Approval: Fiscal Court & City Commission

Proposed Feasibility Study Committee

- 13 Members
- GCF to serve as neutral convener
- Members commit to full and good faith participation
- Suggested Composition of committee:
  - Chief Fire Official for City and County (2)
  - City and County Administrator (City Manager and County Judge Executive) (2)
  - 2 Magistrates to be appointed by Clark County Fiscal Court (2)
  - 1 Commissioner to be appointed by City Commission (1)
  - Mayor (1)
  - 3 At-large and/or subject matter experts (3)
    - GIS director, Stephen Berry
    - Bluegrass Emergency Response Team, TBD
    - 911 Dispatch, TBD
  - 2 GCF Trustees (2)
Questions and Discussion

Thank you.

Questions or for more information:
jalgire@clarkambition.org