January 18th, 2017

Sheriff Bill Hutton
Washington County Sheriff's Office
Law Enforcement Center
15015 62nd Street North
P.O. Box 3801
Stillwater, Minnesota 55082-3801

Dear Sherriff Hutton,

Greetings from the City of Forest Lake! As you may be aware, the Washington County Sheriff's Office previously provided service to Forest Lake Township prior to the merger of the City and Township. We often hear about the quality of service provided to our residents while the Sheriff's Office served our community. In addition, we often hear positive feedback on the efficiency and effectiveness with the services you provide to the communities adjacent to Forest Lake.

After thoughtful consideration, the Personnel Committee is interested in exploring alternative approaches for providing law enforcement services to the community. Toward that end, we would appreciate receiving a proposal from the Washington County Sheriff's Office to provide law enforcement services to the City of Forest Lake. We have had the opportunity to review the agreement you use with other contract communities and understand the County's overall approach to partnering with cities to provide law enforcement services.

Our goals moving forward include the following:

1. To receive a proposal from the Washington County Sheriff's Office, which in your professional judgement, reflects a staffing profile that effectively serves the needs of Forest Lake residents. The Mayor and City Administrator are to be the City of Forest Lake's primary contacts to the Sheriff's Office during the proposal's development. Within the proposal, it is hoped that a transition and implementation plan can also be developed.
2. To provide an opportunity for public engagement to solicit feedback on the proposal after it is presented to the City Council.
3. To work collaboratively with the Sheriff's office to determine if a mutually beneficial partnership can be established.

We anticipate that by asking the Sheriff's Office for a proposal that there is the potential for a negative reaction among impacted stakeholders. We want to acknowledge that this request was initiated by the City of Forest Lake and was not solicited by your office. Innovation and adjustment in service delivery represents change, but we feel confident in the Sheriff Department's track record of serving many Washington County communities. With the Forest Lake Police Department being a larger organization

that serves adjacent communities, we feel that the potential exists for synergy, efficiency, and cost savings. We look forward to a thoughtful discussion and your response. Please feel free to contact City Administrator Aaron Parrish at 651-209-9750 to discuss next steps. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ben Winnick, Mayor
City of Forest Lake

Aaron Parrish, City Administrator
City of Forest Lake