

## Highland District Council 1978 Ford Parkway Saint Paul, Minnesota 55116 651-695-4005 Fax 651-695-4019 Email: hdc@visi.com

February 28, 2013

Chief Tim Butler Saint Paul Fire Department

Chief Butler,

The Highland District Council is happy to submit this letter of support for the 2014/2015 CIB proposal to upgrade the facilities of the Renovation of Station 19.

This project benefits our community in the following ways:

- 1. The project would close a significant service gap, restore full time fire and EMS protection in Highland Park, cost a fraction of the cost of building a new station, and requires no additional Fire Fighters or ongoing crew costs.
- 2. Land, an available crew and ladder truck, and architectural designs are ready and waiting, meaning the costs of the project are reduced.
- 3. There is a coverage gap created when a dual-staffed medic crew leaves Highland Park on an assignment (taking a patient to the hospital, training, fuel or rig repairs, etc). If this project is completed there would be someone to answer medical or fire calls in Highland Park while the other crew is out. It would help cover the 8 hours of the day that Highland Park is not covered with full-time fire protection.
- 4. Highland Park would enjoy the same level of protection enjoyed in other areas of the City.

The proposed project will be beneficial to Highland Park and we urge its completion.

Sincerely,

Kathy Carruth

Executive Director

Highland District Council