



May 7, 2010

Dear Resident:

I'd like to thank you for your continued interest in the city's upcoming fire station replacement projects. I'd also like to invite you to a **neighborhood meeting** about both stations that is scheduled for:

6:45 p.m., Thursday, May 20th
The Rec Center Banquet Room
3700 Monterey Drive

Since my last letter in February, the city hired the team of KKE Architects, Bonestroo and SRF Consulting Group to design and engineer two new and expanded fire stations to replace the two existing fire stations. As you may know, both stations will be rebuilt in about the same locations.

We want to introduce you to the design team and discuss the process and schedule. More importantly, we will be asking for your thoughts and opinions. What are your concerns? What do you see as the goals and opportunities? What you tell us now will help guide the design options you'll see later.

The meeting on May 20th will begin with a 30-minute presentation. Following the presentation, we will break into two groups. One group will focus on Fire Station No. 1 and the other will focus on Station No. 2.

Next Steps

The design team and I hope to meet with you and other neighbors in June to review design options, and again in July to discuss the City's preferred options. The City will continue to invite input at various stages of the design process and regularly communicate with the public throughout design and construction. While construction of the stations won't begin until 2011, some site preparation work like demolition and moving private utilities on the site could begin this summer.

About the Current Stations

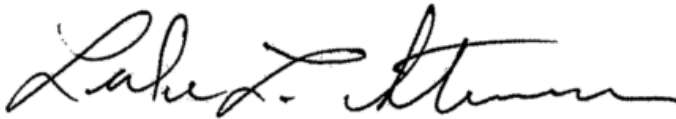
Some of you may be new to the neighborhood or missed previous letters and meetings about this project. Unfortunately, the two buildings that house the people and equipment that help the Fire Department provide fire protection and emergency medical services are just

plain wearing out. Based on a thorough analysis, the city has determined that it has no choice but to replace its two existing stations.

Both of the fire stations were constructed in the 1960s. They do not meet accessibility rules for public buildings and they do not accommodate the current multi-gender Fire Department staffing. Other concerns relate to deteriorating structural elements, the aging mechanical systems, limited ventilation, lack of apparatus storage space, and insufficient meeting space to host all firefighters simultaneously for meetings and training.

I'd like to thank you in advance for taking the time to learn about these important capital projects the city is undertaking. I invite you to contact project coordinator Sean Walther if you have any questions. Mr. Walther can be reached at (952) 924-2574 or swalther@stlouispark.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luke Stemmer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Luke" being more prominent than the last name "Stemmer".

Luke Stemmer
St. Louis Park Fire Chief