



4646 Dakota St. SE
Prior Lake, MN 55372

A message from our Mayor:

Another Quality Community Cornerstone

The City Council took another important step toward a safer, healthier community when it recently approved the Fire Station No. 2 schematic design by the building's architects, I&S Engineers and Architects, Inc. and authorized the preparation of plans and specifications. Located at the intersection of County Road 21, Fountain Hills Drive and Enclave Avenue in the Jeffers Waterfront Planned Unit Development, the property is very near the ideal location considered most effective for a second fire station by a Boarman Kroos response time study.

Our 2030 Vision and Strategic Plan challenges the City to deliver quality services to a growing community. In 2006, the public accepted the challenge and approved a referendum for a new Fire Station by a 2-1 margin. Fire Station No. 2 is a significant investment and a tremendously important tool in maintaining the fire department's quality of service and the quality of life for current and future residents. Thank you again for your support.

I'm pleased with the process and the Fire Station Building Committee's attention to detail. The committee includes councilor Steve Millar and me, together with Fire Chief Doug Hartman, firefighters Rick Kathan and James Kline of the Prior Lake Volunteer Fire Fight Department, I&S representatives, City staff and owner's representative Bill Wolters. We have met a dozen times to discuss space needs, adjacencies, site constraints, PUD design requirements, traffic flow and design matters like durability, longevity, attractiveness to the surrounding residential and commercial development, and, of course, value. We continue to make refinements while keeping an eye on getting the best value for the dollars.

The station is being built to support our long-term needs. The current interior design calls for a 10,000 square-foot station with three apparatus bays, standby area, offices, equipment and storage areas, a meeting room, kitchen, and leased space for tenant Allina Ambulance. Allina is an enormously important partner in this project and will provide vital medical transport and advanced life support services to our residents, making sure they get to the care they need when they need it.

The building committee has spent a great deal of time minimizing operation and energy costs. Windows are strategically placed to bring light and heat in the building. We are also concentrating on energy efficient insulation, lighting, heating and air conditioning, as well.

Exterior materials are being chosen for durability, color and consistency with adjacent buildings. Fire Station No. 2 will fit well into the residential neighborhood and set a reasonable standard for future commercial buildings in the area, as well. It is tremendously important to recognize that the neighborhood is a variety of homes from town homes to single-family dwellings. It's also important to recognize Fire Station No. 2 is the first building in a commercial development and will set the standard for 24 acres of upscale businesses in Jeffers Waterfront. As a result, we have given special attention to how the station sits on the site and meshes with the surrounding community.

The City of Prior Lake is greatly appreciative of the 1.3 acre site for Fire Station No. 2. As a gift from the site's developer, Wensmann Homes, the cost savings to our residents, calculated by today's standards, exceeds \$265,000. And the location could not have been better. Both the fire department and Allina agree it will cut down response time and enable them to provide excellent service for years to come.

It's been a wonderful process this far. In addition to improving response times for fire and ambulance services in northwest Prior Lake, Fire Station No. 2 reflects positively upon both the residential and commercial image of the city today and into the future.

Mayor Jack Haugen