

TO: Parks & Recreation Committee  
FROM: David Chanski, City Administrator/Clerk  
RE: Night to Unite Discussion  
DATE: July 13, 2023

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Night to Unite is Tuesday, August 1 and is a statewide event that is intended to build and foster community bonds between citizens, businesses, and public safety organizations. Night to Unite occurs annually on the first Tuesday in August.

Night to Unite's goals are to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness.
- Generate support and participation in crime prevention and community policing programs.
- Strengthen neighborhood spirits and public safety-community partnerships.
- Let criminals know that you are committed to keeping your neighborhood safe.

The City of Breezy Point Police Department has taken the lead on Night to Unite for the last few years. In addition to law enforcement, fire, and EMS participation in the event, Public Works staff usually brings out various pieces of equipment for kids to see and touch and simple food items such as hotdogs, soda, and chips are provided. The Police Department usually seeks and receives donations for all food items. The City Council has never formally funded Night to Unite as part of the budget process.

Elements usually present at Night to Unite are police cars and law enforcement equipment, fire trucks and equipment, public works equipment, ambulance. North Memorial Air Care also usually lands a helicopter next to the baseball field if they are available.

Upon the request of Mayor Zierden, the City Council voted on July 6 to ask the Parks & Recreation Committee to discuss ways Night to Unite may be enhanced and to volunteer at Night to Unite. The Council also allocated up to \$500 for enhancements.

### **Committee Action**

Staff recommends that the Parks & Recreation Committee discuss any ways the Committee believe Night to Unite could be enhanced and ways the Committee can support the event on August 1.