



To: Melissa Marsh, City Manager

From: Greg Lelito, Fire Chief

Re: Madison Heights Community Foundation Grant

Date: 6/30/25

In May, the Fire Department submitted a grant application to the Madison Heights Community Foundation Grant Program for the acquisition of a state-of-the-art, dual-use drone system intended to enhance the operational capabilities of both the Fire and Police Departments. We are pleased to report that the application was successful, and the department has been awarded a \$30,000 grant.

The drone system provides:

- Real-time video streaming
- High-resolution zoom capabilities
- Thermal imaging & Night vision
- LTE/5G connectivity
- Integrated spotlight, speaker, and microphone

These features offer significant operational enhancements across both departments:

Fire Department Applications:

- Aerial reconnaissance and fireground size-up
- Detection of hot spots via thermal imaging
- Hazardous materials scene assessment
- Post-incident damage evaluation
- Search and rescue operations

Police Department Applications:

- Scene documentation for traffic accidents and crime scenes
- Enhanced situational awareness during tactical operations
- Support in locating missing persons or fleeing suspects
- Public safety monitoring at large events
- Nighttime surveillance using infrared imaging

After evaluating several drone manufacturers, the department selected the Skydio X10 drone, which is designed, assembled, and supported in the United States. To meet the City's procurement requirements, the Fire Department utilized the Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Program, ensuring compliance with competitive bidding.

We respectfully request City Council approval to purchase the Skydio X10 drone from Safeware in the amount of \$29,969.00, to be fully funded through the awarded grant.

I'd be happy to respond if you have any questions or comments regarding this issue.