

To: **Mayor and City Council**
Through: **Ryan Schroeder, City Manager**
From: **Sherrie Le, Assistant City Manager**
Date: **March 25, 2019**

Accept 2018 Shared Volunteer Program Annual Report

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The City of West St. Paul has a robust Volunteer Program that began in 2014 as a shared program with Apple Valley, Rosemount and Inver Grove Heights. The program provides numerous ways for the community to engage with the City. At the same time, the City saves money we would have to pay in wages and is able to provide services we otherwise could not afford to provide.

Diane Erickson, our Volunteer Engagement Manager, is a West St. Paul employee whose time and expenses are shared between the four cities. The attached report explains the background, program goals and the savings for all four cities for 2018.

The number of volunteers and number of volunteer hours has increased steadily each year since the program began. A big part of that growth in 2017 and 2018 was due to the increased efforts on Diane's part to find volunteer groups for our Adopt the Park and Adopt the Street programs.

FISCAL IMPACT:

West St. Paul received the benefit of just over \$92,900 in volunteer time in 2018. The cost for West St. Paul's portion of the shared volunteer manager, with all ancillary program costs was roughly \$14,900 in 2018, resulting in a positive savings to the City of \$78,000.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff requests the City Council's acceptance of the 2018 Shared Volunteer Program Annual Report and requests the City Council to extend the City's appreciation to all of our wonderful volunteers.