



AGENDA

Joint Council Meeting

City of Maple Plain & City of Independence

Location: Independence Council Chambers
August 21, 2025, 6:30 P.M.

The Maple Plain City Council and the Independence City Council will be gathering in a joint meeting at the Independence Council Chambers to discuss the Possible Consolidation of the Maple Plain Fire Department with West Suburban Fire Department.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Discussion and Consideration to Move Forward with the Consolidation of the Maple Plain and West Suburban Fire Departments.
 - a. **Independence RESOLUTION No. 25-0821-01** – Considering approval of the city's intent to proceed with the consolidation of the Maple Plain Fire Department and the West Suburban Fire District.
 - b. **Maple Plain RESOLUTION NO. 2025-0821-01-** Considering approval of the city's intent to proceed with the consolidation of the Maple Plain Fire Department and the West Suburban Fire District.
5. Open/Misc.
6. Adjourn.

City of Independence and City of Maple Plain
Joint City Council Meeting
Fire Department Consolidation

To: | Independence City Council and Maple Plain City Council
From: | Mark Kaltsas, Independence City Administrator and Jacob Kolander, Maple Plain City Administrator
Meeting Date: | August 21, 2025

Discussion:

Maple Plain Fire Department (MPFD) and West Suburban Fire District (WSFD) have continued working on the potential consolidation of the fire departments. The cities have also continued working with WSFD to look at all aspects of the consolidation including the budget and general contract terms. WSFD has provided a probable budget for 2026 along with additional information relating to projected soft costs associated with a consolidation.

- General terms of the consolidation are as follows:
 - MPFD would dissolve on December 31st, 2025
 - All MPFD equipment including apparatus, equipment, air packs, etc., would be donated to WSFD
 - Cities of IND and MP would enter into a new five-year contract (could consider a longer contract) for fire services with WSFD
 - WSFD would hire all active MPFD fire fighters
 - Maple Plain would lease existing fire station to WSFD (terms to be negotiated and finalized)
 - Cities of IND and MP would pay one-time costs of approximately \$37,000 (split 50/50 for uniforms, truck decals, etc.)
 - Cities of IND and MP would continue to make an annual contribution for five years (split 50/50) to the WSFD PERA retirement account to cover the cost associated with the higher pension program (see projected annual PERA payments)

<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>	<u>2028</u>	<u>2029</u>	<u>2030</u>
\$ 61,430.00	\$ 66,549.00	\$ 72,018.00	\$ 77,859.00	\$ 84,097.00

- Projected budget for 2026 with annual PERA payments is:

- Independence: \$307, 151.13
- Maple Plain: \$245,348.87

Should both councils approve the joint resolution indicating each city's intent to proceed with the consolidation, staff would begin working on completing the following items:

- Work with legal counsel, relevant stakeholders, and representatives of the West Suburban Fire District to prepare all necessary legal documents, lease agreements, and other materials required to complete the consolidation.
- Work with legal counsel and representatives of the Maple Plain Fire Commission to prepare all necessary legal documents, amendments and other materials necessary to amend the Joint Powers Agreement between the City of Maple Plain and the City of Independence.
- It is fully intended that the documents and agreements necessary to complete the consolidation would be finalized so that the full implementation of the consolidation would occur by December 31, 2025.

The formal agreements noted above will need to be formally approved by the respective city's once prepared and agreed upon.

Council Recommendation:

Both City Councils are being asked to consider approval of the resolution confirming each city's intent to proceed with the consolidation of the Maple Plain Fire Department with the West Suburban Fire Department and directing each City Administrator to proceed with all necessary steps to complete the consolidation.

Attachments: **Independence Resolution No. 25-0821-01**
Maple Plain Resolution No. 2025-0821-01



RESOLUTION OF THE
CITY OF INDEPENDENCE
HENNEPIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

RESOLUTION NO. 25-0821-01

**A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE CITY'S INTENT TO PROCEED WITH THE
CONSOLIDATION OF THE MAPLE PLAIN FIRE DEPARTMENT
WITH THE WEST SUBURBAN FIRE DEPARTMENT AND
DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO PROCEED WITH ALL NECESSARY
STEPS TO COMPLETE THIS CONSOLIDATION**

WHEREAS, the City of Independence recognizes the importance of providing efficient, effective, and sustainable fire protection services to its residents and surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, the Maple Plain Fire Department and the West Suburban Fire District have engaged in discussions regarding the consolidation of services to improve operational efficiency, enhance service delivery, and ensure long-term fire services viability; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of Independence supports the consolidation effort and believes it is in the best interest of the community to proceed with the necessary steps to complete the consolidation by December 31, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MINNESOTA:

1. The City of Independence hereby expresses its intent to proceed with the consolidation of the Maple Plain Fire Department and the West Suburban Fire District.
2. The City Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to work with legal counsel, relevant stakeholders, and representatives of the West Suburban Fire District to prepare all necessary legal documents, lease agreements, and other materials required to complete the consolidation.
3. The City Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to work with legal counsel and representatives of the Maple Plain Fire Commission to prepare all necessary legal

documents, amendments and other materials necessary to amend the Joint Powers Agreement between the City of Maple Plain and the City of Independence.

4. The City Administrator shall ensure that all documents and agreements are prepared and finalized in a timely manner to allow for full implementation of the consolidation by December 31, 2025.
5. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.

This resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Independence on this 21st day of August 2025, by a vote of ____ ayes and ____ nays.

Brad Spencer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Mark Kaltsas, City Administrator