City of Meadowlakes

177 Broadmoor Street

Meadowlakes, Texas 78654

830-693-6840

Dear Neighbor,

The Council is investigating the formation of a police department for the City of Meadowlakes. Duties would be crime prevention, general policing, traffic control and ordinance enforcement. The Council wishes to solicit input from its citizenry regarding this issue prior to taking action. Mayor Raesener appointed, at the October 2014 Council meeting, a committee consisting of one councilmember, one member of City staff and three citizens. This committee was charged with assessing the current and proposed policing and ordinance enforcement and the development of a means of soliciting input from the citizens of the City regarding this issue. Below you will find a statement of duties and approximate cost of the current means of policing and ordinance enforcement, as well as, a proposal to organize a police department for the City of Meadowlakes. The City Council would like you to review these issues and provide them with your input. Please return the bottom portion of this letter indicating your thoughts either to City Hall, by mail or by dropping it into the utility drop box on the exit side of the security gate no later than **November 25th.**

**PROBLEMS TO BE SOLVED:**

 **1. Traffic Control**

 **2. Ordinance Infractions**

**Current Solution:**

1. Traffic Control-Currently traffic control is provided by utilizing part-time off duty Burnet County sheriff deputies that work a total of 50 hours per month. Traffic control activities are based on the officer’s schedule and convenience with little input or control from the City.
2. Ordinance Enforcement-Ordinance enforcement is currently being provided by one part-time City employee, who is not a certified peace officer. He works approximately 18 hours per week.

**Potential Solution:**

The proposed creation of a police department for the City of Meadowlakes would combine the functions of both traffic control and ordinance enforcement operations under a **one** person police department. The proposed police department would provide an additional 120 hours of police coverage per month, determined by the City and not at the convenience of the officer, a certified police officer to respond to ordinance violations, as well as, provide the citizens with crime prevention and other policing activities not currently provided.

**Cost to the Average Homeowner:**

The creation of a City of Meadowlakes police department would cost the average homeowner in Meadowlakes approximately $2 per month more than the existing level of traffic control and ordinance enforcement.

(Continued on back)

It is anticipated that the Council will consider acting on the creation of a police department at its December 9th meeting. We thank you for taking this issue into consideration and would appreciate it if you voice your thoughts on this very important issue by returning the bottom portion of this letter indicating your desires.

--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

 (Tear off and return)

Name (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate your preference for City Council consideration by checking one of the two boxes below:

I am in favor of forming a City of Meadowlakes Police Department whom will be charged with traffic enforcement, ordinance compliance, crime prevention and other policing actions.

* **Yes** 🗌 **No**

**Comments: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(Please return by *November 25th* by dropping it in the utility drop box on the outbound lane at the Security Gate, City Hall or you may mail it City of Meadowlakes, 177 Broadmoor Street, Meadowlakes, Texas 78654)**

***THANK YOU***