City of Troy

INTEGRITY * RESPECT * LAWS AND THE CONSTITUTION * ACCOUNTABILITY * PROBLEM SOLVING * PROFESSIONALISM

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 18, 2012

TO: Michael Culpepper, Interim City Manager

FROM: Gary G. Mayer, Chief of Police
William S. Nelson, Fire Chief

RE: City of Oak Park Hazardous Materials Incident & Mutual Aid Request

Please allow this general overview to serve as insight for the recent Oak Park incident in which we were involved.

Incident

On July 16, 2012, the Marathon Station at 26700 Greenfield, Oak Park, was receiving 9,000 gallons of gasoline from a tanker truck. One of the tanker's external discharges units struck a pump protection barrier. The external discharge was sheared off, spilling 2,000 gallons of gasoline onto the pavement and into the storm drains. The emergency shutoff valves for the tanker would not function. The intersection of Greenfield and 11 Mile Road was shut down and nearby businesses were evacuated.

Response

The gasoline entering the waste water treatment plant via the storm drains caused concern. The dry hot conditions presented a condition where the gasoline vapor, if ignited, could cause a devastating fire condition not only for the City of Oak Park but also the bordering communities of Southfield and Berkley.

Oak Park activated mutual aid and asked for assistance of the Oakland County Regional Hazardous Materials Team (OCHMRT) and also the Oakland County Incident Management Team. (OCIMT)

The OCHMRT was able to stop the leak of gasoline preventing additional entry into the drain system and monitored for flammability in the adjoining businesses to prevent explosion. Both the OCIMT and OCHMRT worked with the Oak Park Incident Commander on a plan to mitigate this emergency and return these communities to normalcy.

The Troy Police and Fire Departments sent members to this incident as part of the OCHMRT and OCIMT regional mutual aid teams. This demonstrates a continued commitment to public safety in our area, sharing of costs and cost effectiveness. We are fortunate to have professional committed people on which we can count in these circumstances.