

CITY OF ROGERS

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE ROGERS CITY COUNCIL MEETING DECEMBER 10, 2024, AT 7:00 P.M.

Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), commonly referred to as drones, are used to assist law enforcement with public safety and emergency responses. Law enforcement agencies across the country have utilized UAVs because of the beneficial impact on public safety including the ability to gather information in response to Realtime emergencies, missing persons, crime scene documentation, fugitive searches, assessing severe weather damage, community events, and traffic accident mapping. The Rogers Police Department plans to join the 100+ other law enforcement agencies in Minnesota with its own UAV program. The City's use of the drones will be guided by Minnesota Sec. 626.19 MN Statutes which governs the use of unmanned aerial vehicles by law enforcement. The statute requires a law enforcement agency to provide an opportunity for public comment before it purchases or uses a UAV. At a minimum, the agency must accept public comments submitted electronically or by mail. The governing body with jurisdiction over the budget of a local law enforcement agency must provide an opportunity for public comment at a regularly scheduled meeting. To fulfill this requisite, the Rogers Police Department will accept public comment through an online survey from November 22, 2024 through December 2, 2024 (via the department's website) and through an opportunity for comment at a Rogers city council meeting.

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