February 6, 2019

Dear Benton Township Property Owner,

Our Township strives to provide the highest quality fire and emergency services to our residents. We have come to a critical decision making point regarding how our fire protection services are provided. Our current method of ensuring an emergency response is no longer an option and we have very few alternatives.

After researching our options for years and talking with our Benton Township Board, our volunteer firefighters, and other local elected officials, we have come to the conclusion that the best way to secure high quality long-term fire protection for the lowest cost is for us to join the Monroe Fire Protection District.

As the Township Trustee, I am asking for your support to move forward with this process. Please indicate that you approve of Benton Township joining the Fire District by signing the enclosed postage-paid postcard and returning it to me by March 1, 2020.

How will we benefit by joining? We will receive:

- Benton Township's first full time paid firefighters (two per shift), who will serve our community alongside our volunteer firefighters;
- Faster response times to fire and medical emergencies by having first responders available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from our fire station;
- Possible savings on homeowner's insurance rates (depending on your agency);
- Reduced administrative and operating costs by streamlining services; and
- Minimize tax impact by spreading the cost of services over a larger number of people.

This improved level of service is sustainable by tax revenue and not conditioned on any Federal or State grant.

## \*\*MARK YOUR CALENDARS\*\*

We will be holding public meetings to discuss in more detail how these changes will impact taxpayers and to answer any questions that you might have. Please join us at the Unionville Senior Center (7616 E. State Road 45, Unionville, IN) at 6:30 p.m. on either March 23, March 24, or March 26. Each meeting will feature the same presentation.

As always, if you have any questions please contact me at 812-339-6593 or michelleabright@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Michelle Bright Benton Township Trustee