

**FOREST LAKE AREA SCHOOLS
FOREST LAKE, MN 55025**

October 11, 2018

AGENDA ITEM: 4.1

**TOPIC: APPROVE LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR CITY OF
COLUMBUS TIF DISTRICT 1-1**

BACKGROUND: The City of Columbus is proposing to provide tax increment financing to assist with economic development within their City. The TIF District is proposed to assist with the financing of a 100,000 square foot warehousing, storage, and distribution facility on a currently undeveloped "green acres" site within the City. The project is expected to commence in the fall of 2018 with completion in spring of 2019.

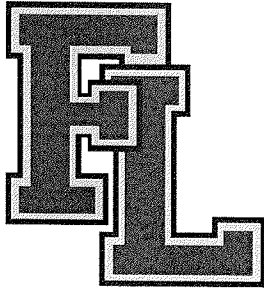
PROCESS: The Finance Committee has reviewed this item in detail and recommends that a letter of support for this project be transmitted to the City of Columbus.

This project will not impact any school district revenues.

The project will provide a larger tax base for the school district nine years from now when the Tax increment financing expires.

It is very unlikely that the property would be developed without Tax increment Financing.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve attached Letter of Support to be sent to the City of Columbus.



FOREST LAKE AREA SCHOOLS

6100 N 210th St • Forest Lake MN 55025

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*Superintendent.....Dr. Steven D. Massey
Administration & Human Resources..... Donna M. Friedmann
Business Services..... Lawrence A. Martini
Community Education..... Corey J. McKinnon
Special Education..... Kelly J. Lessman
Teaching & Learning..... Diane E. Giorgi*

October 12, 2018

Ms. Elizabeth Mursko
City Administrator
City of Columbus
16319 Kettle River Boulevard
Columbus, MN 55025

Dear Administrator Mursko:

The School Board of Independent School District #831, Forest Lake Area Schools, offers this letter in support of the City of Columbus Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District 1-1.

The School District recognizes that there will not be any reduction in School District Revenue as a result of the proposed TIF District. The School District also is in favor of economic development and growth in our collective tax base. We agree with the findings that the undeveloped greenfield site within your city limits would not be developed into a warehouse and distribution facility without the Proposed Tax Increment Financing Plan.

Thank you for allowing us to comment on your project.

Sincerely,

Dr. Steve Massey
Superintendent of Schools

Inspire the learner; ignite the potential!

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