

The Walled Lake & Wolverine Lake Police Shared Services Agreement



City of Walled Lake

Population: 6,713

Geographic: 2.5 sq. miles, includes residential, commercial, and lake.

Approximate Savings: estimated at \$300,000 per year, including personnel, equipment, and opportunities afforded by participation in the Federal DEA task force.

Village of Wolverine Lake

Population: 4,415

Geographic: 1.7 sq. miles, includes residential and lake.

Approximate Savings: estimated at \$200,000 per year, including personnel and equipment.

History of the Walled Lake & Wolverine Lake Police Service Sharing Agreement

- **August 1994** – Wolverine Lake transfers afternoon dispatch to Walled Lake, beginning an era of increased cooperation between the departments, including automatic mutual aid.
- **2005 to 2007** – Plante & Moran studied consolidated police and fire services for four communities: Wixom, Commerce, Walled Lake, and Wolverine Lake. Study funded by Oakland County CCRIF (County Capital and Cooperative Initiative Revolving Fund).
- **February 2007** – Joint scheduling agreement reached. Both departments scheduled and organized as a single department with 12-hour shifts on patrol. Patrol, dispatch, records, lock-up centralized in Walled Lake. Wolverine Lake Police Department facility closed.
- **February 2007 to May 2008** – Communities negotiated a permanent shared services agreement. Negotiating teams included elected officials, staff, and police personnel.
- **June 2008** – Shared services agreement in effect. Officers deputized in both jurisdictions.

Shared Services Agreement

- Officers from each community remain employees of that community.
- Communities agree to use best efforts to concurrently negotiate future union contracts.
- Equipment and other expenses split 2/3 Walled Lake and 1/3 Wolverine Lake.
- Joint badging on uniforms and cars - logo created by members of department.
- Forfeiture dollars will be used to increase and enhance future investigations, training, equipment, operations, programs including drug education and awareness, and a new/updated police headquarters. In accordance with Federal law, forfeiture dollars will not be used to replace or supplant current budget or resources of the department.
- Agreement contains clauses for dispute resolution and disengagement from agreement.
- Wolverine Lake pays for a part-time officer for lake patrol.
- Contract term of initial shared services agreement is five years. Dispatch agreement extended three years. Both Agreements set to expire June 30, 2013.

Advantages beyond cost savings:

- Smaller overall force without a reduction in total patrol time – greater visibility;
- Ability to operate a 12-hour shift schedule, increasing road coverage;
- Better able to schedule around vacations, court time, disability, etc.;
- More overall force available for large events such as hydroplane races and fireworks;
- Decrease in overtime hours necessary to handle incidents, prisoner pick-up, acquiring warrants, and maintain in-custody processing through the courts;
- Improved command structure/oversight - more efficient use of support and command staff;
- More effective management of vehicle depreciation, by spreading mileage between communities' combined patrol cars and rotating vehicle purchases;
- More opportunity for advancement and broader experience for officers;
- Able to dedicate one officer to DEA task force – opportunity to share drug forfeiture dollars;
- One Wolverine Lake officer promoted to detective, whereas previously there was just one Walled Lake detective - lowest number of open cases in recent history.