



Town of Highland Park
News Release – For Immediate Release

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Town of Highland Park Awarded Highest Public Safety Classification Rating

October 30, 2017 – Fire Protection in the Town of Highland Park will soon receive the highest Public Protection Classification (PPC) rating as awarded by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) and approved by the Texas Department of Insurance. The Town of Highland Park will join 52 other communities across the state with an ISO Class 1 rating, the top rating awarded to any community. ISO is a New York-based advisory organization that serves the property and casualty insurance industry by providing inspection and statistical services.

ISO classifies communities on a scale ranging from 1 to 10. In order to earn an ISO rating of 1, communities are required to demonstrate the best systems for water distribution, fire department equipment, firefighting personnel, and fire notification (dispatch) facilities. A PPC rating has a direct bearing on the cost of property insurance for homes and commercial buildings. Officials in Highland Park recognize the economic benefits of a lower PPC rating. Upgrades to infrastructure, water supply, fire apparatus, communication centers, and continuous training for fire personnel have contributed to the to an ISO rating of 1. Chief Rick Pyle, Director of Public Safety, added, “Our goal to reach an ISO rating of 1 began months ago, and required many moving parts. The Fire Marshal worked closely with internal HPDPS staff, the State Fire Marshal’s Office, the Town’s Water Department, and University Park Fire Department to fulfill the highest requirements for fire protection set forth by the Insurance Services Office.” Nationwide, out of 49,000 surveys, only 280 communities have been awarded an ISO Class 1 rating.

An official presentation will be held during the Town Council Meeting on November 13, 2017, at 8:00 a.m. “This is a tremendous achievement, one that speaks volumes for the dedication, commitment, and cooperation necessary to provide the best possible fire protection services to the town,” Mayor Joel T. Williams III said, “I’m proud to see Highland Park DPS recognized on a national level.” Members of the State Fire Marshal’s Office will be present at the Town Council Meeting when the approved ISO Class 1 announcement will take place.

The recognition of outstanding fire protection in Highland Park may translate into lower property insurance rates for homeowners and businesses for the community. The Texas Department of Insurance believes Highland Park should be commended for their hard work and continuous effort to earn the ISO Class 1 rating.