**For Immediate Release**

**August 9, 2017**

**Re: Public Meeting for the Tompkins County Law Enforcement Shared Services (LESS) Study Project**

Community members are invited to attend a public meeting to learn more about the ongoing Law Enforcement Shared Services (LESS) Study Project in Tompkins County and share feedback on the study’s draft findings. Community members are invited to any of the following three meetings. All three meetings will include the same information and format.

**Monday, August 28**

**6:00 - 8:00 pm**

**Tompkins County Public Library**

**BorgWarner Room**

**101 E. Green St., Ithaca**

**Wednesday, August 30**

**6:00 - 8:00 pm**

**Tompkins Cortland Community College**

**Forum, Room 163**

**170 North Street, Dryden, NY**

**Thursday, August 31
6:00 - 8:00 pm
BOCES Smith School Gymnasium
555 Warren Road, Ithaca, NY**

About the project:

Tompkins County and the City of Ithaca, along with the Villages of Cayuga Heights, Dryden and Groton are undertaking a thorough evaluation to determine the best option for providing the highest levels of policing service to our community. Law enforcement is an essential government service that touches the lives of every resident and visitor in Tompkins County. The professionals that provide this valuable service have dedicated their lives to keeping the community safe. However, the increased costs associated with these services and the demands for greater operating efficiencies are forcing a closer look at how service is provided.

The Rochester-based consulting firm, CGR, and its partner Highland Planning, LLC, are engaged in a comprehensive review of law enforcement operations in the County and the participating municipalities. The process includes data gathering and analysis, and interviews with key staff in each of the participating law enforcement agencies. The process also includes significant community engagement via public meetings, surveys, and targeted focus group sessions.

For more information, visit <https://www.cgr.org/TompkinsLESS/>.