



# CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF LATHRUP VILLAGE  
27400 Southfield Road, Lathrup Village, Michigan 48076

## STUDY SESSION AGENDA

MONDAY, JULY 27, 2020

6:00 P.M.

### ZOOM REMOTE MEETING INFORMATION

**Online:**

<https://zoom.us/j/91224158763?pwd=OWpsUGZXTTNibTgydGpJTmdwUjBEQT09>

**Telephone:**

301.715.8592 or 312.626.6799

Webinar ID: 912 2415 8763

Password: 031801

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### AGENDA ITEMS

1. **Call to Order** by Mayor Garrett
2. **Discussion Items:**
  - A. Discussion – Repurposing of Exercise Room
  - B. Discussion – Extend Sunset Period for Marijuana Establishment
  - C. Discussion – Road Improvement Bond Millage
  - D. Discussion – Agenda Items
3. **Mayor and Council Comments**
4. **Public Comments**
5. **Adjourn**



**Dr. Sheryl L. Mitchell**

**City Administrator**

City of Lathrup Village

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**COUNCIL COMMUNICATION:**

TO: Mayor Garrett and City Council Members

FR: Sheryl Mitchell, City Administrator

DA: July 27, 2020

RE: **Repurposing of Exercise Room**

As Council is aware, the exercise room in the lower level of City Hall has not been open to the public since March 2020, due to the COVID-19 precautions. In addition, it was decided not to renew the lease for many of the pieces of exercise equipment.

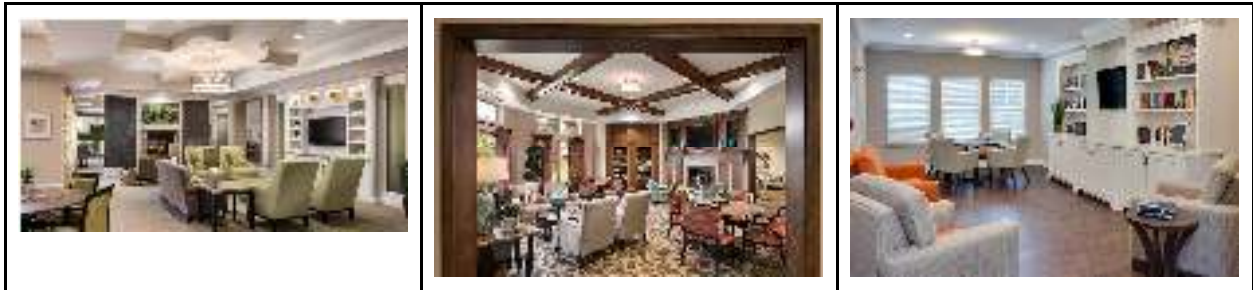
Our Recreation Intern, Cori has undertaken a capstone project for that includes working on plans for repurposing the fitness center. She is working closely with Chris Clough, Parks & Recreation Manger, to identify a selection of ideas. These will be presented to the Recreation Advisory Committee for feedback.

At this point, they would also like the feedback from council members. Cori's next step will be to "build out" plans for the top three vote getters. The key is that we want to pick something that residents really want and will use. Buy-in is important. In the Fall, they would like to present the plans to residents at large for an informal vote on which option to pursue. The project will also entail finding funding opportunities through grants and sponsorships.

## Potential Uses for Gym Space

### Senior Friendship Cafe

*Step into a bright, welcoming space to enjoy a free cup of coffee or tea, catch up with neighbors and learn about city news & events. The lounge would feature vinyl “hardwood” floors, improved lighting, a kitchenette, senior-friendly furniture and a modern colonial design. The space would also be available for rent as group meeting space. Volunteer stewards would manage the cafe when open to the public.*



### Arts & crafting studio

*Roll up your sleeves and create! A dedicated space for arts programming in the city, benefitting residents of all ages. Studio would feature built in storage for supplies, sturdy art tables, appropriate easy cleanup flooring, improved lighting and a utility sink. The space would be used for city sponsored art & craft classes and available for rent. Instructors and renters responsible for cleaning space after use.*



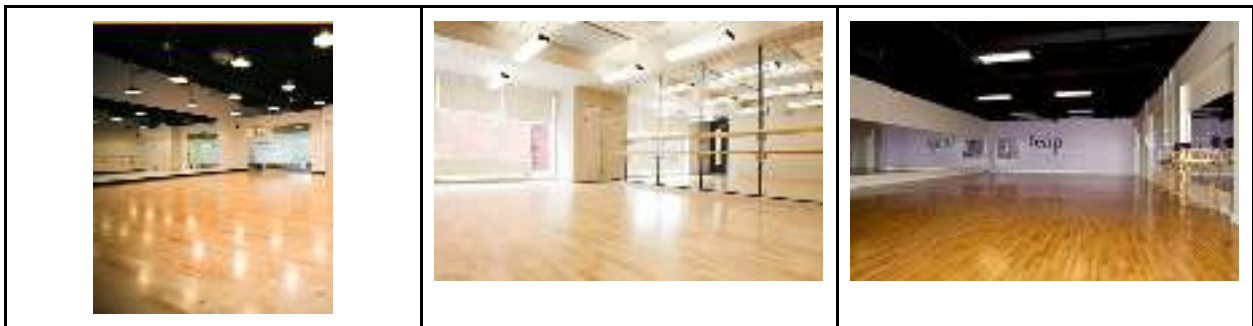
### Historical museum

*Lathrup Village has a fascinating history with important lessons to impart. This space would provide a physical space for Lathrup’s story to be told. Museum would include vinyl “hardwood” flooring, improved lighting, display areas and capability for interactive displays. Museum would be curated and managed by the Lathrup Village Historical Society. It is important to note there would not be space for historical archives or storage of historical artifacts not on display.*



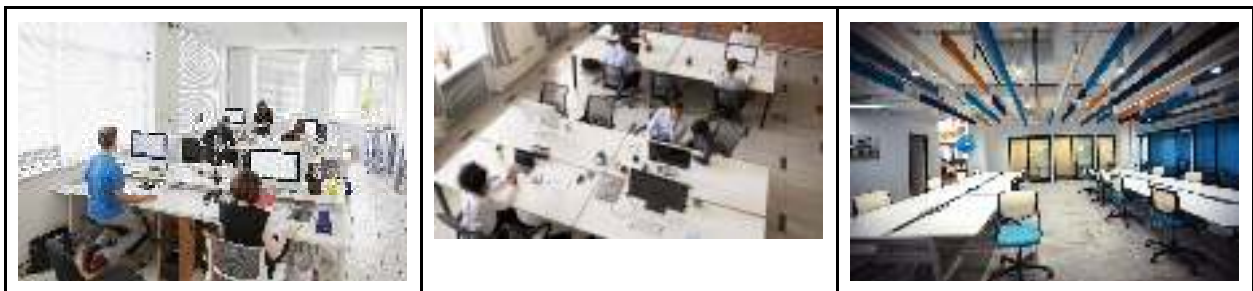
**Dance & Yoga studio**

*A second dance studio could provide much needed rental revenue in addition to expanding our ability to offer dance and fitness classes in-house. With two studios, we would be able to dedicate one to tap, jazz, hip hop, hustle and exercise classes in which participants wear shoes. The other could be used for ballet, yoga, tai chi and martial arts. Studio would feature improved lighting, professional dance floor, wall mirrors, bars, sound system and storage space. Space would be available for rent and city use.*



**Non-profit/Co-op office rental space**

*There are so many resources available for our residents, but no one is dedicated to making the connections. Some community centers offer low-cost office space rental to local non-profits who bring their services to the community. Two to four small units could fit into this space with a shared printer/copier. Alternatively, cooperative work spaces can be utilized to help foster small business startups.*





## Classroom

*What's more versatile than a classroom? The classroom would feature bright colors, improved lighting, commercial vinyl flooring, modern easily movable classroom furniture with multiple functionalities, smart board and presentation capabilities. The flexible space could be used for city meetings, recreation classes and rentals.*



## Babies and Toddler Playroom

*Lathrup Village has dozens of residents under the age of 4 and more on the way! Parents have requested dedicated space for the playgroups and development classes that are essential to raising healthy kids. Playroom would feature bright colors, improved lighting, easy clean gym mat flooring, free play space, story time space and storage. The space would be available for city sponsored play groups and classes as well as rentals (birthday parties).*



## City Hall storage space

*Storage of important city documents and assets are spread throughout the building in dozens of closets and offices. Documents are not archived or digitized for easy retrieval. Utilizing a central secure, storage space for city documents and records would help staff better the residents and businesses of Lathrup Village. Additionally, it would free up closet space for physical assets and office space, creating the potential for more work stations. This storage space would include polished concrete flooring with drainage, fresh paint, new configurable file*

*cabinets, storage space for awkward items like plans, shelves, new doors with locks, work table and a computer station for accessing file inventory.*



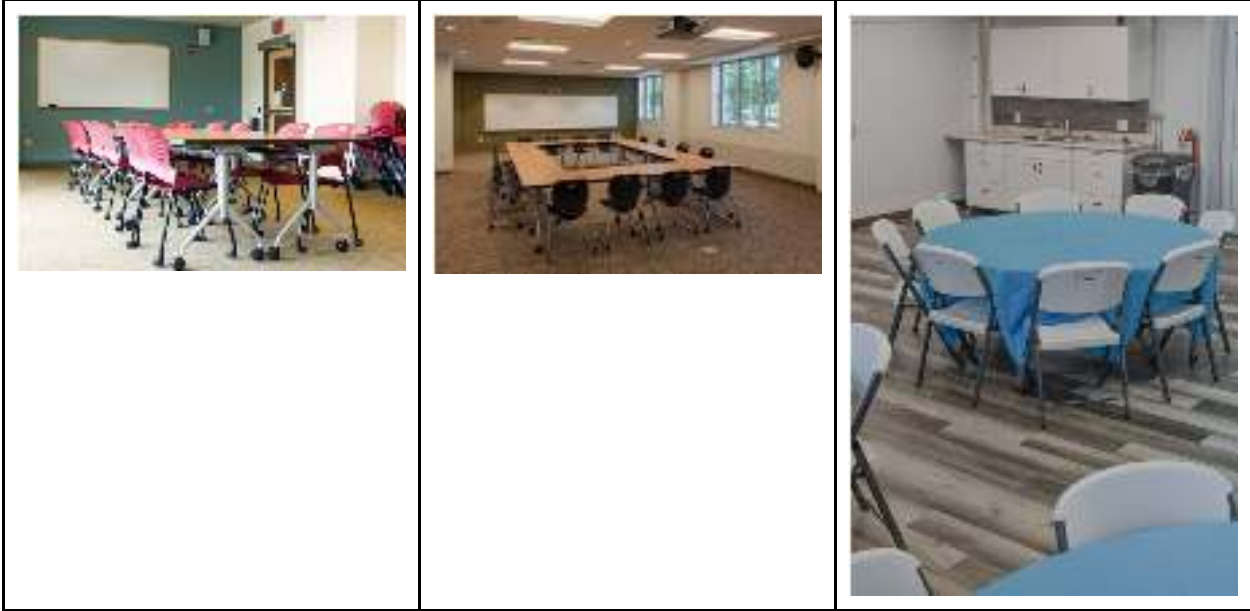
### **Teen Zone & game room**

*Feelings of social isolation and their terrible repercussions are rising among teens at a staggering rate. Lathrup Village lacks spaces that teens can call their own. There are no basketball courts, limited parks, limited coffee shops and no rec center. Most teens in Lathrup Village go to a wide variety of schools and may not know they live on the same block. This space would provide an opportunity for teens to have a safe place to meet new friends, collaborate on an art project, play games and practice music. Membership requirements could be a code of conduct and a commitment to providing community service hours for the city. Design and features of the space would be determined by local teens but could include: kitchenette, pool table or other large games, comfortable furniture and collaborative work space.*



### **Multi-purpose room**

*A multipurpose room fitted with tables and chairs, a white board, and a kitchenette leads to endless possibilities combining great aspects from several of the options above. Senior coffee mornings, classroom activities, rental space. The multipurpose could allow additional programming for art activities, educational classes, group meetings, social events (i.e. senior coffee mornings). The room would feature vinyl “hardwood” floors and warm neutral colors with a white board and presentation capabilities. This space could be rented out to community groups for rental income to go back into the recreational budget.*



**Other Ideas**

Library & computer room: Southfield library meets this need for Lathrup residents



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**COUNCIL COMMUNICATION:**

TO: Mayor Garrett and City Council Members  
FR: Sheryl Mitchell, City Administrator  
DA: July 27, 2020  
RE: **Extend Sunset Period for Marijuana Establishment**

In March 2019, City Council adopted an ordinance (Article VI - Sec. 18-281). The City Council expressed interest in having an ordinance to “opt-out” of allowing medical or recreational marijuana facilities in Lathrup Village, with a sun-set clause to re-examine after the State of Michigan regulations are in place and the study group has had an opportunity to report its findings.

The adopted ordinance contained a sunset provision, that the “opt out” would no longer be in effect 18 months after enactment unless reauthorized by ordinance of City Council. The sunset expires in September 2020.

The Marijuana Study Group is chaired by Council Member Saleem Siddiqi. Members include: Don Eichstaedt, Dawn Medley, Cora Morgan, and Carl Woodson. At the July 8, 2020 meeting, the Marijuana Study Group voted 5-0, with 1 absent to recommend that Council allow marijuana related businesses to operate in the City of Lathrup Village. Mr. Eichstaedt has shared an opinion in opposition to any licensing.

The recommendation was shared at the July 13, 2020 Study Session. The consensus of Council was to extend the sunset period, while additional information is gathered, particularly from cities of similar size and cities where marijuana has been legal for more than 1 year.

City Attorney Scott Baker has prepared draft ordinances for Council’s consideration. A determination will need to be made relative to the time period of the sunset (6 or 12 months, or a different time frame).

LV Marijuana Study Group  
Summary of July 8 Meeting  
July 8, 2020

Attendance:

Committee Members:

Saleem Siddiqi - present  
Dawn Medley - present  
Cora Morgan - present  
Carl Woodson - present  
Don Eichstaedt - Absent

Advisors

Sheryl Mitchell - present  
Ian Ferguson - present  
Officer Tompkins-present

Public - Yes via zoom

- A. Summarize Information Gathered to Date – done. Saleem summarized the research to date. Other members commented.
- B. Discussion by Committee – suggested to add all of our notes and interviews and data to portal or website so public can access and review. We will remove names of interviewees first before publishing.
- C. Public Comment – some comments were made & questions asked. Session was recorded so these can be reviewed.
- D. Committee Member Comments – comments can be reviewed in the recording.
- E. Next Steps
  - Should we do a poll/survey before making a recommendation to city council? It was discussed and agreed that we will not take a poll or survey right now and we will make a recommendation to the city council based upon our research and based upon the history of voting (2018 legalization vote) and 2019 survey.
  - If city council wants more information or wants to conduct a poll/survey they can make that recommendation.
  - Should we take a vote on recommendation to the city council tonight? Committee members agreed.



- We voted on whether to approve recommendation to city council.

Question: Do you believe that the marijuana study group committee should make a recommendation to the city council that would allow marijuana related businesses to operate in the city of Lathrup Villlage? Yes or No.

Vote of Committee Members:	Saleem Siddiqi	Yes
	Dawn Medley	Yes
	Cora Morgan	Yes
	Carl Woodson	Yes
	Don Eichstaedt	Absent

Advisor comment: Ian Ferguson also agreed with the decision although he is an advisor and does not have a vote.

Thus, we will put together a recommendation to the city council.

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_-20

CITY OF LATHRUP VILLAGE

OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 18, BUSINESSES, ADDING ARTICLE VI, MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENTS, SEC. 18.281 “MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENTS PROHIBITED,” TO PROHIBIT MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENTS WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY PURSUANT TO THE MICHIGAN REGULATION AND TAXATION OF MARIHUANA ACT AND TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE. THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LATHRUP VILLAGE ORDAINS:

**Section 1 of Ordinance. Ordinance Amendment**

Chapter 18, “Businesses,” of the City of Lathrup Village Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to add a new Article VI, “Marijuana Establishments,” Sec. 18-281, “Marijuana Establishments Prohibited,” to read as follows:

**Sec. 18-281. – Marijuana Establishments Prohibited.**

- a. *Intent; Purpose.* The Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act, Initiated Law 1 of 2018, MCL 333.27951, *et seq.*, and more specifically Section 6(1) thereof, MCL 333.27956(1), authorizes municipalities to prohibit marijuana establishments within their boundaries by adoption of an ordinance. Adoption of such an ordinance does not preclude a municipality from further studying and revisiting the issue at a future date.
- b. *Prohibition of Marijuana Establishments.*
  1. *Definitions.* Words used in this section shall have the definitions as provided for in the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act, Initiated Law 1 of 2018, MCL 333.27951, *et seq.*, as may be amended.
  2. *Prohibition.* Pursuant to the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act, Initiated Law 1 of 2018, MCL 333.27951, *et seq.*, all marijuana establishments are prohibited within the boundaries of the City.
  3. *Penalty.* A person who violates this section shall be responsible for a municipal civil infraction punishable as set forth in Chapter 2, Section 2-201 of this Code. Such sanctions shall be in addition to the rights of the City to proceed at law or equity with other appropriate and proper remedies, including, but not limited to, the right to seek injunctive relief against persons alleged to be in violation of this ordinance, and such other relief as may be provided by law. Additionally, the violator shall pay all costs, including all direct and indirect expenses that the City incurs in connection with the

municipal civil infraction. Each day during which any violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense.

**Section 2 of Ordinance. Repealer.**

This ordinance repeals any ordinances in conflict thereof.

**Section 3 of Ordinance. Severability.**

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decisions shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance, and each section, subsection, clause or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses and phrases be declared unconstitutional.

**Section 4 of Ordinance. Savings Clause.**

Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to affect any suit or proceeding pending in any court, or any rights acquired, or liability incurred, or any cause or causes of action acquired or existing, under any act or ordinance hereby repealed as cited in Section 2 of this ordinance; nor shall any just or legal right or remedy of any character be lost, impaired or affected by this ordinance.

**Section 5 of Ordinance. Publication and Effective Date.**

This ordinance shall be effective upon publication. The City Clerk is hereby ordered and directed to cause this ordinance or a summary of this ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

**Section 6 of Ordinance. Sunset Provision.**

This ordinance can be repealed or modified at any time, has a sunset provision, and is not effective 12 months after enactment unless reauthorized by ordinance of City Council.

**Section 7 of Ordinance. Adoption.**

That this ordinance was duly adopted by the City of Lathrup Village City Council at its regular meeting called and held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2020 and was ordered given publication in the manner required by law.

CITY OF LATHRUP VILLAGE

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YVETTE TALLEY, City Clerk

Introduction Date: July 27, 2020

Adoption Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

Publication Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

## INITIAL DRAFT TIMELINE FOR CONSIDERATION OF MARIJUANA ORDINANCES, ZONING & APPLICATION PROCESS

1. August: Council provides general direction on the following:
  - a. types of marijuana facilities envisioned
  - b. anticipated concerns, if any, about impacts to the community that may need to be mitigated
2. September - October: City attorney and planner work on draft municipal and zoning code language
3. October: Draft language presented to council for initial feedback and additional direction (share initial drafts and council feedback with Planning Commission)
4. October – November: Ordinances refined as needed
5. November: Planning Commission review and discussion
6. November – December: Ordinances refined as needed
7. December: Council reviews final drafts; refine as needed (initial outline for applications could begin here)
8. January: Planning Commission review and set public hearing
9. February: Public hearing on zoning amendments
10. March: Council review, public hearing (recommended) and action on municipal code and zoning amendments
11. April: Final action on amendments
12. May – June: Application development
13. July: Ordinances and applications complete

Again, this is just a starting point but I think reasonable in terms of moving things along in a thoughtful way – together we can refine this as needed. Keeping the timeline and draft materials on the city’s website will provide the transparency I think you’re all looking for.

**Jill Bahm, AICP**

Partner



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**COUNCIL COMMUNICATION:**

TO: Mayor Garrett and City Council Members

FR: Sheryl Mitchell, City Administrator

DA: July 27, 2020

RE: **Road Improvement Bond Millage**

The City Council created and appointed an Infrastructure Study Group to study and make recommendations for sidewalks, water, sewer, stormwater and road improvements. The Committee is chaired by Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Cantor. Members include: Hugo Cardenas, Mike Griffin, Mike Keenan, and Jo Robinson. Council Member Saleem Siddiqi serves as a non-voting liaison.

On November 5, 2019, the residents voted down a proposal for a \$21.3 million project to fix residential roads and storm ditches. The average annual millage rate would have been 8.3105 mills, payable over a period not to exceed 15 years.

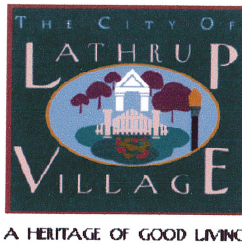
The Infrastructure Study Group voted 4-1 to recommend:

- 3-year project, starting Spring/Summer 2021
- Repair/replace 7.1 miles of local roads (27% of the total local roads)
- Estimated cost of \$5.8 million
- A millage of 3.9307 mills in year 1 and an average levy of 3.9176 mills over 10-year period
- Place on November 3, 2020 ballot
- For the average homeowner - Average of \$263 per year

Miles of Road Project	Description	Cost/Mile	Total Cost
2.6 miles of asphalt road (out of 3.93 miles)	1A: full reconstruction New 10 inch base w 5 inches of asphalt	\$1,137,568	\$2,957,677
0.06 miles of asphalt (out of 1.066 miles)	1B: full reconstruction Existing base with 5 inches of asphalt	\$ 830,829	\$ 498,497
3.7 miles of asphalt road (out of 4.441 miles)	1C: rehabilitation 3 inches of cold milling & 3.5 inches of new asphalt	\$ 528,371	\$1,954,973
0.19697 miles of Dirt Road (out of 1.7 miles)	1B: gravel	\$ 528,371	\$ 163,648
Inflation			\$ 120,780
<b>Construction Total</b>			<b>\$5,695,575</b>
Bond & Legal Fees			\$ 149,425
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COST</b>			<b>\$5,845,000</b>

**Ditches**

- Repaired in conjunction with the 7.1 miles of roads to be repaired
- Homes on the specific construction street would have a 10-year special assessment
- For 83% of homeowners, the ditch repair would be approximately \$223 per year



# INFRASTRUCTURE STUDY GROUP

CITY OF LATHRUP VILLAGE  
27400 Southfield Road, Lathrup Village, Michigan 48076

## ROAD RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL

MONDAY, JULY 27, 2020

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### **Infrastructure Committee Road Recommendation:**

**Goal:** To rehabilitate portions of the local road system that are in degraded condition and to improve the function of the storm ditch system over a three year period. This three-year project would begin in the spring/summer of 2021.

**Background:** The last comprehensive residential road project in Lathrup Village took place 50 years ago in 1969. Over the last few decades, the effects of Proposal A, the Headlee Amendment, reduced State Shared Revenue and the real estate crash of 2008 have resulted in significantly reduced expenditures on residential road maintenance and upkeep. As a result, the degradation of our road system has accelerated dramatically. Residents are frustrated by the rough nature of the roads, lack of walkability, damage to their cars, poor street appearance, loss of property value, injury, etc.

Further, residents are very frustrated with the non-functional storm ditch system that runs parallel to the streets. Water continuously backs up, forming ditch-long standing pools of water that rise to cover the sidewalks and driveways, attract insects and other animals, degrade concrete sidewalks and driveways, etc. In addition, this issue shortens the life of the road system as water that should properly drain off of the roads does not do so and seeps into the road sub-structure, resulting in damage. This standing water also causes significant and unnecessary inflow and infiltration into our sewer pipes, something we are under EGLE mandate to correct. This forces significant amounts of errant water into the sewer system and ultimately to the sanitary retention tank. If the tank cannot handle this additional storm water, we either incur an illegal sanitary sewer overflow or allow basements to back up with sewage.

Road Recommendation: The Infrastructure Study Group recommends (via a 4 to 1 vote) that a three year project commence during the spring/summer of 2021 that would repair or replace approximately 7.1 miles of local roadway (27% of the local road system). The cost of this project would be \$5,845,000, which will equate to an average levy of 3.9176 mills on Lathrup Village residents and businesses over a ten year period. It is recommended that the City place a proposal for this project on the November 3<sup>rd</sup> ballot.

The Committee felt that based upon the defeat of the November 2019 road proposal (i.e. residents rejected repairing all roads and the high cost of that proposal) that it was not feasible to propose a solution that addresses all the roads that are in a degraded condition. The committee also felt that the highest millage rate that voters would accept would be in the neighborhood of 4 mills, which equates to approximately 7.1 miles of road repair, as configured below.

Due to higher cost of concrete work, the proposal recommends that only the asphalt roads be addressed at this time. In addition, with the money raised by the proposed millage, only a portion of the asphalt roads that are in need of repair will be addressed. The proposal recommends the following and understands that there could be some minor shifting between the categories as the specific roads are chosen:

- There are 3.93 miles of local asphalt roads that require method 1A full reconstruction, where 5 inches of asphalt is laid over 10 inches of new aggregate base. The recommendation is to address about 2.6 of these road miles, which equates to a cost of \$2,957,677.
- There are 1.066 miles of local asphalt roads that require method 1B full reconstruction, where 5 inches of asphalt is laid over the existing aggregate base. The recommendation is to address about .6 of these road miles, which equates to a cost of \$498,497.
- There are 4.441 miles of local asphalt roads that require method 1C rehabilitation, where 3 inches of cold milling occurs and 3.5 inches of new asphalt is laid upon this newly milled surface. The recommendation is to address approximately 3.7 of these local road miles, which equates to a cost of \$1,954,973.
- Based upon input from residents regarding our 1.7 miles of dirt road, the committee dramatically reduced the approach toward dirt roads relative to last November. Only \$163,648 has been allocated for dirt road conversion to asphalt.



The \$5,845,000 cost includes \$5,695,575 for the project (which includes a 15% contingency and an approximate \$120,000 in inflation costs over the three year project) and \$149,425 in bond financing and legal fees.

A list of all roads “eligible” for repair under each repair category is attached to this recommendation. Each year of this project, the Infrastructure Committee will assess the current road situation and make a recommendation to City Council regarding which specific roads from the eligible road list will be repaired in the upcoming road repair season.

The \$5,845,000 cost of this project would be born via a single bond issue for the full amount. A millage of 3.9307 mills in the first year with an annual average of 3.9176 mills over the 10 year bond issuance will be placed on the November 3<sup>rd</sup> ballot. The annual cost to the average Lathrup Village homeowner would be approximately \$263 in the first year with an average of \$262 per year over the life of the bond issuance. The cost per \$100,000 of taxable value would be \$393 per year in the first year with an average of \$392 per year over the life of the bond issuance. The bond issue would be structured, as required by state law, such that this general obligation debt never exceeds 10% of the city’s aggregate State Equalized Value

Because millage funds will be used to repay bond debt, the number of mills levied for this purpose does not apply toward the city’s chartered 20 mill maximum, the state law preventing millage levies from exceeding 2% of a city’s aggregate taxable values, nor the state law capping the total mills across all levies to 59 mills. A millage to repay a bond issuance is considered to be a separate, unrelated entity relative to these other regulations.

Ditch Recommendation: Unfortunately, repairing the ditch system is a complex issue and there is not a simple one-size-fits-all solution to repair it. However, without a properly functioning ditch system, our local roads will lose about 10% of their expected lifespan due to water damage. This means that 10% of the tax payer cost of repairing a road would be wasted without simultaneous ditch repair. As such, based upon resident input and committee review, it was felt every effort should be made to repair as much of the ditch system as possible that is directly associated with the specific 7.1 miles of road to be repaired by this proposal. Further, it was felt that due to the significant savings associated with simultaneous road and ditch repair, the systems should be repaired together to ensure residents reap the significant cost savings relative to a separate ditch project.

The road project cost noted above does **not** include the cost for ditch reconditioning. Based upon resident input, the Committee proposes that ditch repairs only occur on roads that are being repaired and that these costs be split evenly across the homes on the given road via a 10 year special assessment. This is an additional cost incurred only by the homes located on streets that undergo road repairs associated with this ballot proposal. The ditch improvement work would begin in the spring/summer of 2021 with the City fronting the cost via a bond or other funding mechanism. Any incurred fees associated with the financing will be a cost that is included as part of the special assessment. As the cost is split between the number of homes on a specific road, roads with more homes will have lower cost estimates than similar sized roads with fewer homes. The actual cost will vary depending upon the existing condition of the road's ditch system. Blocks with fully functional or nearly functional ditch systems will have no or very low cost, while blocks with non-functional ditches will experience higher costs.

The ditch improvements that are a part of this program will include grading the ditches so that water flows efficiently in the proper direction, jet cleaning functional culverts and extended culverts, and replacing non-functional culverts.

Each year, the Infrastructure Committee will propose the special assessment districts (SADs) that correspond to the chosen roads for repair and include them with their road and ditch recommendation to City Council. The Committee will make every effort to ensure as much of the ditch system as possible that is associated with the 7.1 miles in the road proposal is improved. However, due to prohibitive costs in some areas, some of these ditches will remain in their current state and will not be improved. In instances where the cost exceeds approximately \$400 per year (about 17% of eligible homeowners), SADs will not be recommended. The mean cost of the remaining 83% of homeowners is approximately \$223 per year for ditch repair over the 10 year assessment. The Committee will work to create SADs that maximize the amount of ditching improvement that occurs while also ensuring the cost of the SAD remains reasonable. In addition, because of the effort required to create SADs, the committee will strive to create as few SADs as possible. Lastly, in instances where an SAD would not be recommended due to exceeding the cost threshold, residents could still request a ditch repair SAD, if they so desire.

Because the ditch system will be fixed via special assessments, the Committee realizes the distinct possibility that the residents of a road slated for repair could conceivably block the ditch special assessment, and hence, the ditch repair portion of the project. Because the repair of the



ditch system is crucial to obtaining the maximum life of the road and most efficient use of tax dollars, the Committee recommends that a street that blocks the special assessment is removed from the paving program and substituted with a different street. Alternatively, because the SAD process can be arduous, it is also recommended that homeowners on repair-eligible roads that proactively provide a petition to the City Clerk indicating majority approval for an SAD be given increased priority in the selection process.

Individual homeowners who have placed items in the ditches that are not permitted via city ordinance (e.g., large rocks, boulders, decorative items, reflectors, etc.) will be responsible for removing these items before any work commences. The necessity to remove rain gardens will be made as an administrative decision on a case-by-case basis.

Individual city blocks with poorly performing ditch systems whose roads are not slated for repair and desire ditch improvements, are encouraged to work together as a neighborhood to request that a special assessment be created to repair their ditch system. The cost associated with such and improvement project will be lower during the 3 year road project, relative to a standalone ditch project at a later time, as there would be a reduction in fees due to the fact that equipment, labor and material is already on site.

This recommendation only focuses on improving ditches that are associated with the 7.1 miles of roads slated for repair. While the remaining ditches in the City will not be improved, it is recommended that the City use its new code enforcement resources to look for obvious defects (tree roots, blockages, items placed in the ditches that are blocking flow, non-functional driveway culverts, blocked culverts, etc.) and inform residents of the need for repair. If the noted repairs are not addressed in a timely manner, tickets should be issued. While this will not repair the ditches to their original condition, the use of code enforcement in this manner will help to make significant improvements to areas not slated for improvement. It is suggested that at least one quadrant of the City is reviewed each year moving forward.

The city engineering firm will do their best to coordinate planned water main replacements with this project. This will also result in significant savings by doing water system work simultaneously and also eliminate the need to remove the sides of newly repaved roads to later replace water main.

If this recommendation is approved by the City Council, the Infrastructure Committee will begin developing and conducting an education campaign for residents. This will include town halls, meet-and-greets, door-to-door campaigns and more. Education will focus on the project goals, illustrating the streets eligible for improvement, municipal finance, tax allocations, etc. The committee also feels that the primary goal of this campaign will be to educate residents as to why the roads are in the current state (lack of money due to reduced State Shared Revenue, property value loss in 2008, Proposal A, Headlee Amendment, etc.) and how our high taxes are currently allocated (i.e., only about 1/3 of the taxes the city collects is actually kept by the city).

Lastly, it is important to note that should this proposal be approved, the City's Major Act 51 monies will not be needed for this project (i.e., no transfer to the Local Road Fund will be necessary) and can be saved for three years for the funding of the upcoming Eleven Mile Road repaving project, which is estimated at approximately \$1.3M. Based upon past State distributions, the City's Local Act 51 monies should nearly cover most all of the City's non-maintenance costs (e.g., salt, snowplowing, road signs, pothole repair, etc.). This means the full amount raised by this millage would go directly toward repairing the local road system.

This recommendation is made by the following voting members of the Infrastructure Committee:



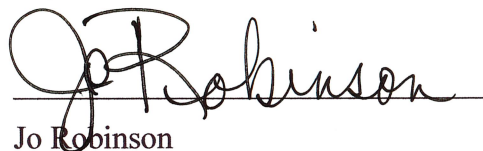
Bruce Kantor, Committee Chair  
Mayor Pro Tem



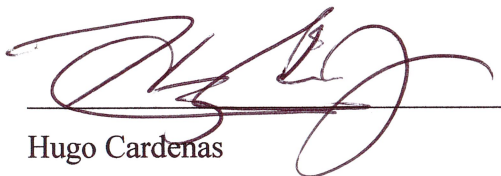
Michael Griffin



Mike Keenan



Jo Robinson



Hugo Cardenas