

Lake Orion Master Plan 2025 Amendment

Village of Lake Orion, Oakland County, Michigan

DRAFT 11.20.24





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Village of Lake Orion, Oakland County, Michigan

Month Day, 2025: Approved by the Village Planning Commission Month Day, 2025: Adopted by the Village Council

Prepared with the assistance of:



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Resolution of Adoption - to be added

Part I: Introduction and Background



Welcome to the Village of Lake Orion's 2025 Master Plan Amendment. Initiated in 2024, this amendment reflects the Village's strategies for addressing redevelopment; future land use; policy and regulatory updates; and ongoing coordination with various Village, Township, County, and State staff. This amendment is key to implementing past policy to attain the future the Village has diligently planned for.

PURPOSE AND RELATIONSHIP TO THE VILLAGE'S 2002 MASTER PLAN

As required by the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, P.A. 33 of 2008, as amended, at least every five years after adoption of a master plan, the Planning Commission must review the plan and determine whether to begin the procedure to adopt a new plan or amend the existing plan. Due to a number of reasons, including recent development activity, the Village has decided to consider an amendment to the plan. This text constitutes the proposed amendment (Amendment #3), and must be interpreted in the context of the overall 2002 - 2022 Master Plan 2002 - 2022. Amendment #3 replaces Section 2 "Goals and Objectives" and Section 10 "Implementation" of the 2002 - 2022 Master Plan.

The purpose of this Amendment #3 to the master plan is to discern tasks that chart a path toward implementing the revised and restated goals and objecting in the following section. Amendment #3 shall be used as a guide for the Village, landowners, and developers during future development processes.



On-line Web Platform and the Hard Copy Engagement Packet



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

Following review by the Village Planning Commission, the Lake Orion community was invited to participate in the amendment process throughout the winter of 2024-2025 through an interactive website, including several surveys regarding the drafted "Goals and Objectives." A paper version of the combined surveys was available at Village Hall offices and the Downtown Development Authority offices. Comments were also received during the required public review period that occurred during the first half of 2025. Findings were presented at several public meetings, including the required public hearing held on Month Day, 2025; key results are included at the end of this amendment.





Part II: Goals and Objectives

In a master plan, goals and objectives serve as the guiding principles for the community over the next 5-10 years. They reflect the community's desired path toward land use, zoning, and redevelopment; economic development; pedestrian and vehicular access and circulation; preservation of natural resources; provision of adequate public services, and more!

Since the 2002 - 2022 Master Plan was adopted, the goals and objectives of decades past have remained unchanged; this amendment serves as a restatement and revision of those guiding principles. In addition to the 2002 - 2022 Master Plan, the following statements draw from several other community plans completed since 2002, such as the 2022 Future Land Use and Zoning Plan (Amendment #2), the 2022 Parks and Recreation Plan, the 2020 Downtown Development Authority and TIF Plan, as well as the 2018 Parking Study.

SMALL ACTIONS ACHIEVE BIG GOALS ...





Goal 1 : Neighborhoods

Preserve and protect the single-family character around the Lake while also providing a diverse housing stock throughout the Village that includes multiple-family and clustered housing types accommodating a variety of income levels and lifestyles.

OBJECTIVES

- 1-A : Increase housing diversity.
- 1-B : Establish effective infrastructure.
- 1-C : Enhance neighborhood design.
- 1-D : Preserve high quality residential areas.

Goal 2 : Economic Development

Maintain and enhance the vitality of the Downtown and M-24 commercial areas by ensuring high-quality redevelopment, encouraging mixed-uses, and promoting

businesses and events.

OBJECTIVES

2-A : Revitalize the Village's historic character.2-B : Encourage high-quality design.2-C : Encourage local businesses to come to the Village.

2-D : Maximize potential of land and future businesses by ensuring uses are properly placed.

- 2-E : Ensure high-quality infrastructure.
- 2-F : Introduce economic vitality projects

Goal 3 : Environment

Protect Village ecosystems by recognizing these areas as key assets, implementing reasonable regulations, and ensuring public education and enjoyment.

OBJECTIVES

3-A : Encourage plant species diversity and quality.

3-B : Preserve and enhance the Village's environment.

3-C : Protect lake and water quality.

3-D : Educate residents and visitors about the Village's unique environment

Goal 4 : Community Facilities

Ensure a high quality of life for all residents, visitors, and businesses by providing safe and efficient pedestrian and vehicular access, robust services, and excellent public spaces and facilities.

OBJECTIVES

4-A : Improve the overall design and function of the Village through public spaces.
4-B : Provide adequate park and recreation opportunities for all village residents and visitors.
4-C : Provide adequate circulation throughout the Village.
4-D : Provide all segments of the population with high quality and affordable services and facilities.
4-E : Develop an efficient parking system that increases public safety, efficiency, and convenience.

Goal 5 : General Planning Efforts

Continue to align Village policies and regulations to achieve appropriate growth, high-quality development, and regular communication across jurisdictions.

OBJECTIVES

5-A : Review, create, and revise pertinent policy documents.5-B: Communicate and coordinate with nearby municipalities and Village partners.





Part III: Strategic Action Plan

Goals and objectives are great - if they can be implemented! To achieve the guiding principles of the Village, a strategic action plan should be focused on actions, organized by their priority, estimated timeline, and lead (i.e., overseer or contributer).

GUIDE TO USING THE PLAN

The following information is a guide to implementation and should be regularly reviewed and updated as necessary; priority levels, time frames, leads are subject to change:

PRIORITY LEVEL

- High
- Medium
- Low

TIME FRAME

- Near Term (0-2 years)
- Medium Term (3-6 years) ...
- Long Term (7-10 years) ...
- Ongoing

LEAD

- Village Government
- AS Administrative Staff DDA Downtown Dev. Authority
- PW Public Works
- CE
- **Code Enforcement** VC Village Council
- PC Planning Commission
- Parks and Rec. Advisory Committee PR
- Other Government
- GLWA Great Lakes Water Authority
- MDOT Michigan Dept. of Transportation
- NJ **Neighboring Jurisdictions**
- SEMCOG Southeast MI Council of Governments
- SOM State of Michigan
- **0C Oakland County**
- ΟΤ **Orion Township**
- LOCS LO Community School District

Private / Non-Profit

- BO **Business Owners**
- СМ **Community Members**
- DEV Developers но Homeowners
- NP Non-Profits

Goal 1 : Neighborhoods



OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS	Source	Time Frame	Lead	Priority	Status
Objective 1-A: Increase housing diversity.					
» Permit accessory dwelling units (ADUs) in the RV, Village Single Family District.	FLU/Zoning Plan 2022				
» Create a new Mixed-Use Transition zoning district to allow for "missing middle" housing and small-scale commercial / live-work spaces.	FLU/Zoning Plan 2022				
» Create opportunities for single-unit housing redevelopment, in the form of cluster housing and condominium options, while maintaining current single-unit residential densities.	Master Plan 2002				
Objective 1-B: Establish effective infrastructure.					
» Expand paths, bike lanes, and other non-motorized infrastructure to promote mobility and connectivity.	Master Plan 2002				
» Administer engineering and design standards for single-unit grading and paving permit approval, including driveway approaches.	Best Practice				
» In areas where multiple unit dwellings are permitted, require appropriate investment in site improvements, provision of off-street parking and adequate infrastructure with sensitivity to natural features and the need to create a stable and secure living environment.	Master Plan 2002				
Objective 1-C: Enhance neighborhood design					
» Develop residential design guidelines or pre-approved plans/elevations for new development or substantial redevelopment.	Best Practice				
» Develop coordinated streetscape designs unique to the various neighborhoods in the Village.	DDA Plan 2018				
Objective 1-D: Preserve the Village's high quality residential areas.					
» Protect residential areas that are adjacent to non-residential (mixed-use/commercial) uses through the use of transitional/gateway buffering such as open space, green belts, and streetscape design.	Master Plan 2002				
» Discourage the conversion of single-family dwellings into multiple family housing.	Master Plan 2002				
» Address neighborhood blight in single-family areas, such as parking on lawns, litter, and dilapidated houses via code enforcement.	Master Plan 2002				
» Maintain the quality of multiple family developments through strict enforcement of Village Ordinances regarding security, housing inspections, and beautification.	Master Plan 2002				
» Encourage reinvestment in single family residential areas, especially in areas that experience blight; establish a small rehabilitation fund or incentive program.	Master Plan 2002				

PRIORITY LEVEL

- High Medium
- Low

TIME FRAME

•	Near Term (0-2 years)
	Medium Term (3-6 years)
	Long Term (7-10 years)
→	Ongoing

LEAD

- Village Government AS Administrative Staff
- DDA Downtown Dev. Authority
- PW Public Works
- CE
- Code Enforcement VC Village Council
- PC Planning Commission
- PR Parks and Rec. Advisory Committee

Other Government

GLWA	Great Lakes Water Authority	Privat	e/No
MDOT	Michigan Dept. of Transportation	BO	Bu
NJ	Neighboring Jurisdictions	СМ	Со
SEMCOG	Southeast MI Council of Governments	DEV	De
SOM	State of Michigan	HO	Но
00	Oakland County	NP	No
OT	Orion Township		
LOCS	LO Community School District		

Non-Profit usiness Owners Community Members evelopers

- Iomeowners

Goal 2 : Economic Development



OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS	Source	Time Frame	Lead	Priority	Status
Objective 2-A: Revitalize the Village's Historic Character					
» Promote the restoration, reuse, and renovation of historic buildings.	FLU/Zoning Plan 2022				
» Establish a historic district for the DDA and historic neighborhoods.	Best Practice				
» Obtain official designation of historic buildings and sites.	Best Practice				
Objective 2-B: Encourage high-quality design.					
» Develop design guidelines for existing and new buildings.	Master Plan 2002				
» Maintain the quality of multiple family developments through strict enforcement Village Ordinances, security, housing inspections, and beautification.	of Master Plan 2002				
» Develop a unified streetscape plan for the M-24 corridor.	Master Plan 2002				
» Extend the boulevard on M-24 to Flint Street (and beyond as applicable).	Best Practice				
» Ensure quality design is an essential component of future development by creating and employing comprehensive urban design criteria to guide future commercial development which respects the realities of small town sites, including setbacks, building height, massing, scale, and detail.	Master Plan 2002				
» Continue the established incentive program to aid in preserving and enhancing the facades of buildings in the downtown area.	DDA / TIF Plan 2020				
Objective 2-C: Encourage local businesses to come to the Village.					
» Complete a downtown market analysis.	DDA / TIF Plan 2020				
» Promote and encourage the downtown as the preferred location for future retai office, restaurant, and entertainment development and as a key element to the community's small town character.	l, Master Plan 2002				
» Create a business recruitment program and continue to develop marketing materials and brochures.	DDA / TIF Plan 2020				
» Actively market and educate property owners on permitted uses in each district	DDA / TIF Plan 2020				
Objective 2-D: Maximize the potential of the land and future businesses by e	nsuring uses ar	e properly pla	ced.		
» Concentrate general commercial uses on the M-24 thoroughfare for maximum access to the trade area population.	Master Plan 2002				
» Discourage commercial development along the lakefront, particularly commercial uses that do not permit the public to view and enjoy the lakefront.	al Master Plan 2002				
» Enforce sound land use and zoning practices, which control the expansion of str commercial and the unplanned location of isolated commercial activities.	ip Master Plan 2002				

PRIORITY LEVEL

High
Medium

lediun Low

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→	Ongoing
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Other Government

GLWA Great Lakes Water Authority Michigan Dept. of Transportation Neighboring Jurisdictions Southeast MI Council of Governments **DEV** Developers MDOT NJ SEMCOG State of Michigan Oakland County SOM oc Orion Township LO Community School District от LOCS

Private/Non-Profit

- BO Business Owners
 - Community Members
- HO Homeowners NP Non-Profits

Goal 2 : Economic Development (cont'd)



Objective 2-E: Ensure high-quality infrastructure that promotes and improves quality of life in commercial areas.					
» Develop a way-finding (signage) program.	DDA / TIF Plan 2020				
» Promote adequate off-street parking for commercial uses, including joint-use parking and additional off-street parking uses in the downtown.	Master Plan 2002				
» Purchase and provide LED lighting to illuminate all the doorways in the downtown to add consistency, creating a more inviting appearance, and raising awareness for business offerings and hours to visitors.	DDA / TIF Plan 2020				
Objective 2-F: Introduce economic vitality projects					
» Establish a Brownfield Redevelopment authority.	DDA / TIF Plan 2020				
» Create, design, and establish a seasonal or yearly farmers market venue with the potential for year-round activity space for the entire community.	DDA / TIF Plan 2020				
» Purchase key parcels that play a vital role in redevelopment.	DDA / TIF Plan 2020				

PRIORITY LEVEL

- HighMedium
- Low

TIME FRAME

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LEAD Village Gover

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vate/Non-Profit Business Owners

- Community Members
- Developers
- Homeowners Non-Profits

Goal 3 : Environment



OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS	Source?	Time Frame	Lead	Priority	Status
Objective 3-A: Encourage plant species diversity and quality.					
» Regularly inventory, protect, maintain, and plant Village street trees.	Master Plan 2002				
» Adopt a tree ordinance for private properties to protect existing trees or provide for their replacement.	Best Practice				
» Increase landscaping standards for new development and redevelopme	nt Best Practice				
Objective 3-B: Preserve and enhance the Village's environment					
» Maintain and enhance the scenic view of the Village's lakefront by preserving viewsheds and limiting nonresidential development along the lake.	FLU/Zoning Plan 2022				
» Develop and maintain residential development and density patterns whi relate to the Lake's natural and manmade environmental features.	ch Master Plan 2002				
» Coordinate planning efforts with the Township to minimize environmenta impacts of development on the lake and other sites which may negative impact environmental quality of the village.					
» Encourage the development of environmentally safe and cost effective solid waste management programs, which include recycling, composting and other techniques which could reduce the waste stream generated b the Village.	g, Master Plan y 2002				
» Develop a Residential Tree Planting Program that focuses on select block(s) each year to increase the neighborhood tree canopy and improvenvironmental quality and stormwater management.	ve DDA / TIF Plan 2020				
Objective 3-C: Protect lake and water quality.					
» Conduct periodic testings to identify possible degradation and remedial steps.	Best Practice				
 Adopt Zoning Ordinance standards for maximum impervious surface are on residential lots; encourage pervious surfaces and natural alternatives 	a Best . Practice				
» Adopt and implement a Stormwater Management Plan	Best Practice				
» Maintain and promote the use of open space to create a buffer between development and waterbodies.	Best Practice				
» Consider requiring administrative engineering review for single-family developments	Best Practice				
» Work with local community groups which specialize in water quality	Master Plan 2002				
» Review sites for minimization of erosion, runoff control, and buffering between the lake front and development.	Master Plan 2002				
» Consider techniques including keyhole regulations, to reasonably limit the impact and number of boats on Lake Orion to protect its value as a recreational resource and an ecological system.	Master Plan 2002				
» Collaborate with Orion Township and other municipalities to address stormwater drainage, runoff, and Lake issues.	Master Plan 2002				
Objective 3-D: Educate residents and visitors about the Village's unique	ue environment				
» Increase awareness and education of the natural resources through interpretive signage on public property.	Parks & Rec Plan 2022				

Lake Orion

Goal 4 : Community Facilities

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS	Source?	Time Frame	Lead	Priority	Status
Objective 4-A: Improve the overall design and function of the Village through pu	ıblic spaces.				
» Locate public buildings in a manner that define the Village's public spaces.	Best Practice				
» Encourage architectural features such as height, mass, and high quality materials that enhance the appeal of public space.	Best Practice				
» Add village-style lighting fixtures which align with the historic aesthetic of the village.	Best Practice				
» Public buildings should be accessible to residents and visitors of all types regardless of transportation method or ability.	Best Practice				
» Survey the downtown streetscape and furniture zones for areas that might not meet ADA accessibility standards or could be obtrusive to pedestrian	DDA / TIF Plan 2020				
» Gather funds and complete the future design projects listed in the DDA/TIF plan	DDA / TIF Plan 2020				
 Continue partnering and sponsoring public art opportunities, including but not limited to murals, rotating exhibits, and design competitions (ex: crosswalks). 	DDA / TIF Plan 2020				
Objective 4-B: Provide adequate park and recreation opportunities for all village	residents ar	nd visitors			
» Ensure barrier-free accessibility to all existing parks, recreation areas, and trail systems, including paths, transfer points, resilient surfacing, picnic tables, play equipment, curb cuts, parking, etc.	Parks & Rec Plan 2022				
» Improve the quality of parks with equipment updates and continued maintenance while continually considering new parks and open space as opportunities arise.	Master Plan 2002				
» Develop linkages between Lake Orion's inland and waterfront parks to assure a cohesive and linear open space and recreation system accessible to residential neighborhoods. In particular, develop a safe pedestrian and non-motorized linkage across M-24 between the lake and downtown.	Master Plan 2002				
» Encourage the development of the Polly Ann - Paint Creek Link connecting the village to the Township and regional trail systems.	Master Plan 2002				
» Coordinate recreation program development and encourage cooperative use, development, and maintenance of parks and recreation opportunities between the village, township, and Lake Orion schools.	Master Plan 2002				
» Research and apply for both the Trail Town and Water Town designations, a Pure Michigan program, to encourage eco-tourism and attract a wider audience to the Lake Orion downtown area.	DDA / TIF Plan 2020				
» Install decorative white, LED lighting in the trees for the entire winter season to create a welcoming look and environment. Provide a mix of cold weather activities and events to attract patrons to the downtown year-round	DDA / TIF Plan 2020				
Objective 4-C: Provide adequate circulation throughout the Village					-
» Add missing links between existing Village sidewalks and connect existing paths to existing and planned bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.	Parks & Rec Plan 2022				
» Encourage the development of a pedestrian crossing across M-24 near the intersection of M-24 and Broadway.	Master Plan 2002				
» Ensure access to transit services for the citizens of Lake Orion	Master Plan 2002				
» Require developments to provide greenways / trails and nontraditional paths, in addition to sidewalks, in new / modified developments to connect them with other community neighborhoods, amenities and destinations.	Parks & Rec Plan 2022				
» Promote the use of common entrances and shared parking facilities along M-24.	Master Plan 2002				
» Consider enhancing the integrity of the Village road system with the completion of platted, incomplete streets and linkages with the existing road system.	Master Plan 2002				
» Develop a marketing program to encourage bicycle use as an alternative to driving.	Parking Study 2020				

Goal 4 : Community Facilities (cont'd)



0	JECTIVES AND ACTIONS	Source?	Time Frame	Lead	Priority	Status
»	Continue to review, maintain and enhance pedestrian crosswalks and sidewalks within the DDA district, including directional signage and zebra crosswalk striping. All improvements should follow the approved street and sidewalk design, with bump outs, brick lined sidewalks and lighting.	DDA / TIF Plan 2020				
»	Coordinate and develop a shuttle system with select stops within downtown Lake Orion with North Oakland Transportation Authority.	DDA / TIF Plan 2020				
0	pjective 4-D: Provide all segments of the population with high quality and affor	rdable servic	es and faciliti	es.		
»	Monitor the storm drainage system for problem areas and encourage maintenance of existing systems	Master Plan 2002				
»	Maximize the efficient use of existing community facilities and encourage the reuse of community facilities in the downtown which are consistent with the village's plan and appropriate.	Master Plan 2002				
»	Encourage the development of underground utilities with new construction.	Master Plan 2002				
»	Establish a policy for downtown snow removal, including property owner responsibilities, locations for dumping and prioritize curbside and intersection snow removal.	DDA / TIF Plan 2020				
0	pjective 4-E: Develop an efficient parking system that increases public safety,	efficiency, an	d conveniend	e.		
»	Appoint a person to oversee the parking system.	Parking Study 2020				
»	Discourage the development of new private parking lots within the downtown that are not for residential or public parking.	Parking Study 2020				
»	Collaborate with owners of private lots to allow for public shared use of the private parking areas where possible.	Parking Study 2020				
»	Add barrier-free parking spaces where appropriate.	Parking Study 2020				
»	Improve parking lots with restriping, landscaping, and other regular maintenance efforts noted in the 2020 Parking Study to increase the function, convenience, and safety of all lots.	Parking Study 2020				
»	Develop flyers that can be distributed to parking users that detail parking locations, overnight parking, and more.	Parking Study 2020				
»	Name all public lots and add introduction signs to all public lots to aid in marketing and wayfinding.	Parking Study 2020				
»	Install parking wayfinding signage across the downtown.	Parking Study 2020				
»	Add and enforce parking limits to the most convenient spaces in parking lots, with the rest designated as long-term.	Parking Study 2020				
»	Develop a parking fee and fine schedule.	Parking Study 2020				
»	Create a sinking fund for maintenance and upgrades to the parking system.	Parking Study 2020				
»	Develop a policy on valet parking and taxi/ride share loading areas.	Parking Study 2020				
»	Keep educated with the progress of autonomous vehicles.	Parking Study 2020				
»	Develop a parking deck or structure that is carefully integrated into the community fabric and include liner buildings if located within the downtown core.	DDA / TIF Plan 2020				

Goal 5: General Planning Efforts



OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS	Source?	Time Frame	Lead	Priority	Status	
Objective 5-A: Review, create, and revise pertinent policy documents.						
» Review the Master Plan on an annual basis, inventorying accomplishments and areas in need of extra attention.	Best Practice					
» Pursue a comprehensive update to the Master Plan to reflect current data and trends, gather community input, and fully integrate all existing amendments.	Master Plan 2002 / Best Practice					
» Update the Parks and Recreation Plan every 5 years to remain eligible for grant funding.	Parks & Rec Plan 2022					
» Adopt a revised Zoning Ordinance and pursue wholesale rezoning, including the implementation of new zoning districts.	FLU/Zoning Plan 2022					
» Create a Capital Improvement Plan	Best Practice					
Objective 5-B: Communicate and coordinate with nearby municipalities and Village partners.						
» Build trust and relationships with the business community and property owners in the community, focusing on personal outreach and on-going educational programming and offerings.	DDA / TIF Plan 2020					
» Maintain a close relationship with the Library Board and seek projects which further support the goals of the Orion Township Library, including expanding and enhancing community support and improving ease of access for residents.	DDA / TIF Plan 2020					

PRI	ORITY	LEVEL
	High	
-		

•	Medium
	Low

TIME FRAME

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