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To: Lathrup Village Downtown Development Authority
From: Janet Bloom – Community & Economic Development/DDA Director
Date: July 17, 2026
RE: Director's Report

The warm welcome I have received coming into the City of Lathrup Village as CED/DDA Director is appreciated. I look forward to working with the DDA Board, businesses, residents, and visitors who help make this community special.

Monday, July 6th was my first day in my position as CED/DDA Director, so with one week in the books, this will be a brief list of connections, tasks and upcoming meetings that are slated.

- Tours of Lathrup City Hall and the City of Lathrup Village
- HR paperwork and cell phone/laptop/software set-up
- DDA Budget/Financials meeting with Mike Greene and Tom Kennedy
- Met with Jill Bahm, Eric Pietsch, and Hannah Prins of Giffels Webster on Master Plan Open House, projects, and ReCast Cities
- ReCast Cities meeting with Tracey Williams, Robin Kinnie, and Tom Kennedy to complete a ReCast homework assignment (video at a local business – we selected Rita's), and to talk about the ReCast program and next assignment.
- Southfield Sun interview regarding CED/DDA position and added in the Master Plan Open House
- Teams call with the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA)
- Meeting with Southfield DDA Director Molly LaLone regarding TriCities initiatives
- Attended Parks & Recreation Commission meeting July 9th
- Spoke to Austin Colson July 10th
- Met with Kathleen Stillman from Oakland County Economic Development
- Signed up for MSU Extension's Citizen Planner Online course (24 episodes; approximately 15-20 hours for completion)
- Call to DDA Board members to meet one-on-one
- Call to Planning Commission members to meet one-on-one
- Upcoming meetings:

Main Street Oakland County – with our representative Tim Colbeck
Attending Southfield Public Schools groundbreaking ceremony July 14
Communication & Engagement Committee – July 14
LV Music Fest – Lauren Beras
Southfield Chamber of Commerce Sunrise Monthly Mixer
Dept. of Public Services – David Chung
Paradise Garden Landscaping – DDA vendor
Tree Committee – July 27
Surnow Team – July 29

Meet our Business and Property Owners:

Tom Kennedy and I will be carving out time to connect with our DDA district business and property owners starting this week and over the course of a few weeks for introductions.

For Your Calendar:

Please plan to attend the Master Plan Open House on Tuesday, July 21 from 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm at the City of Lathrup Village City Hall. Mayor Bruce Kantor will also deliver a State of the City address at 5:30 pm – 6:00 pm.

August Health Month: Tom Kennedy is leading the events for this activity and has partnered with Oakland Community College and Henry Ford Health System. It includes a blood drive, CPR training, and more.

Gathering Input on Future Needs:

As we work with the DDA Board, administration and staff, and business and property owners, we'll be collecting suggestions on projects and tasks. We will need to filter through which ones we move forward with and then prioritize. We have lots of positive momentum which we can build upon.

Recommendation: To Receive and File