



A HERITAGE OF GOOD LIVING

Dr. Sheryl L. Mitchell Theriot

City Administrator

City of Lathrup Village

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COUNCIL COMMUNICATION:

TO: Mayor Garrett and City Council Members

FR: Sheryl Mitchell Theriot, City Administrator

DA: September 27, 2021

RE: Wildlife Management

There have been considerable concerns expressed by Lathrup Village residents regarding the populations of wildlife in our area – especially coyotes and deer.

The City of Southfield has established a Wildlife Advisory Commission that is proposing public education and outreach efforts, along with future plans for wildlife management studies.

The presenter is the Chair of the Wildlife Advisory Commission, Dr. David Shaeffer. He will offer results of the initial research and survey. Southfield City Council heard the presentation in August.

Regarding the recent sightings of a mangy coyote - Sgt Zang spoke with the DNR officer who indicated that we are handling the situation correctly by not dispatching the coyote. The officer indicated the coyote may look mangy because it is losing its summer fur before growing its winter coat. Additionally, if the animal is not walking around in a “drunken state”, meaning chasing its tail, foaming at the mouth, not running from human contact or becoming aggressive with humans then we should leave the animal alone. The characteristics described would indicate the coyote may have some type of disease which would warrant the PD dispatching it. He indicated that it is strange that we have so many daylight sightings of the coyote but he contributed the behavior to the animal becoming domesticated with all of the human contact. He highly stressed that people not leave out dog /cat food outside which will contribute to the domestication of the coyote and will increase the daylight sightings.

Also, the City of Farmington Hills is seeking a “collaborative regional solution” to urban deer management- particularly working with Oakland County and the State. A copy of their resolution is also attached.