

City of Lathrup Village
27400 Southfield Road
Lathrup Village, MI 48076
www.lathrupvillage.org | (248) 557-2600

TO: Mayor & City Council
FROM: Mike Greene – City Administrator
DATE: August 3, 2026
RE: Discussion Items

Chipping Service

Due to budget constraints, the City Council voted to end chipping service at the conclusion of FY 26. At the July 20 Study Session, the City Council requested that staff reach out to chipping providers to see whether they would provide a quote for a one (1)- day-per-month service. Staff contacted 10+ vendors, and those who submitted pricing are enclosed in your packet as of Thursday (7/30).

Vendor	Price/Month
Davey Tree Service	\$2,176
Elvis Tree Service	\$2,250
True Cut Tree Care	\$10,000

Fontenot (previous City contractor via SOCRRA) is concerned that once-a-month service would not be cost efficient as they would be attempting 4 weeks' worth of chipping at one time, versus being broken down weekly. They believe, based on their history, it would take 4-5 days to get through a month's worth of chipping. Fontenot would be willing to do as-needed chipping after a storm. They would have a supervisor come through to see what was needed and quote based on the damage.

As a reminder, the City Council approved a Fiscal Year 2027 budget that included revenues exceeding expenditures by only ~\$33,000. Any contracted regular chipping service would drastically impact this balance. Additionally, the City is anticipating continuing with financial issues in the coming years, which means there are additional cuts that may need to take place in the coming years to balance the budget, unless the Council continues with revenue enhancements such as PA 33.

Sarrackwood Park

During the July 20 Council Meeting, the Council decided to table a decision on the removal of the Sarrackwood Park Playstructure so they could evaluate further. This item is to continue that conversation.

Staff was unable to find any formal installation documents for this park, noting its exact age. However, we can tell that the plastic slide components of the playspace were manufactured in 1994 (NOTE: this does not mean it was installed in 1994). Based on previous unsuccessful DNR recreation passport grant applications and Google Maps, the play structure has been in this location for at least 20+ years.

Playground equipment lifespan varies based on materials, usage, climate, and maintenance, but typical life expectancies are:

- Metal structures: Galvanized or powder-coated steel frames last 15 to 20 years with strong rust resistance.
- Plastic components: Polyethylene slides and panels last 10 to 15 years before sun exposure causes brittleness or fading.

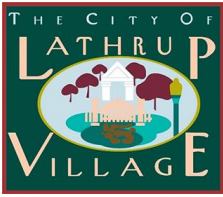
Bruce Kantor
Mayor

Kelly Garrett
Mayor Pro-Tem

Jalen Jennings
Council Member

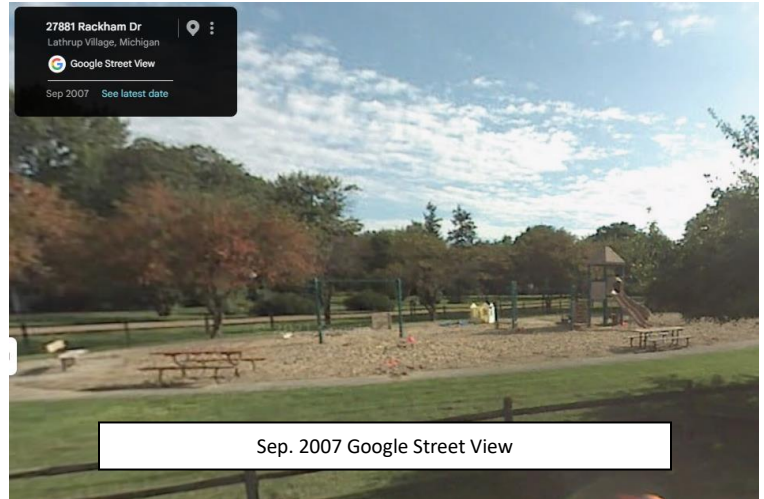
Jason Hammond
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- Wooden elements: Treated wood lasts 10 to 15 years if regularly sealed against rot and pests.



Giffels Webster

At the request of Council, this item is included for discussion.

Maintaining an Engineer and Planner of Record provides the City with access to professional engineering and planning expertise on an as-needed basis while ensuring continuity and familiarity with City projects, ordinances, and long-term goals. Under this arrangement, the City is billed only for services actually rendered, rather than paying a fixed annual fee. As a result, the overall cost to the City is expected to be comparable regardless of whether the City continues its relationship with Giffels Webster or contracts with another qualified engineering and planning firm, as expenses are driven by the volume and complexity of work requested rather than the selected consultant.

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Mayor

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