

## **Lathrup Village Downtown Development Authority**

### **Resolution of Support**

#### **Oakland County RAP 2.0 Revitalization & Placemaking Grant Application**

Whereas, the Lathrup Village Downtown Development Authority Board of Directors offers our full support for our community's participation in Oakland County's RAP 2.0 Revitalization Placemaking Grant application, and;

Whereas the Southfield Road corridor is a highly traveled thoroughfare with a wide variety of destinations including retail, salons, day spas, eateries, medical offices, and Lathrup Village City Hall and Municipal Park. As the largest and most visited park in the city, Municipal Park is the hub of community events including Concerts in the Park, Juneteenth Celebration, Fall Fest, as well as many private events and parties, and;

Whereas the Lathrup Village Downtown Development Authority is charged with revitalizing the Southfield Road commercial corridor and enhancing its vibrancy through physical investment and supporting new and existing businesses, and;

Whereas the Lathrup Village Downtown Development Authority is committed to making physical improvements throughout the district by repaving several alleyways and approaches, implementing a sidewalk replacement program, and initiating several small-scale streetscaping projects including hanging flower baskets, entrance gardens, and banners. The Lathrup Village Downtown Development Authority partnered with the City of Lathrup Village to successfully implement a city-wide bike route wayfinding signage. The Lathrup Village Downtown Development continues to strongly advocate for enhanced pedestrian improvements and non-motorized transportation options throughout the district, and;

Whereas, the Lathrup Village Downtown Development Authority is actively engaged in the Main Street Oakland County program, and has benefitted from the resources and support provided to the organization and the business district, and;

Whereas the Lathrup Village Downtown Development Authority proposes to the completely renovate the existing play structure at Municipal Park into a fully accessible play structure, reconstruct the adjacent parking lot surrounding City Hall, and relandscape the extensive flower beds on the east side of City Hall. The estimated cost for this work is \$809,058, and;

Whereas, the Municipal Park Renovation Project will have a transformative impact on our downtown district by *creating a more welcoming environment for residents and visitors of all ages and abilities. Investment has been made in common infrastructure; however, the infrastructure of play and place-based connection needs attention. The Municipal Park Renovation Project* is consistent with our Comprehensive Plan which includes the Downtown Plan, city-wide Master Plan, and Parks & Recreation Plan, as well as the Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan, and is in

alignment with the adopted economic priorities of Oakland County, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, and the State of Michigan. Furthermore, our proposed project re-enforces the Business, Talent, and Place adopted strategy of SEMCOG that will attract and retain business investment, and appeal to talent who will want to live, work, and invest in our communities and region, and;

Whereas, the pandemic forced the Downtown Development Authority and City to cancel numerous events and programs which typically occur in the park, and the Municipal Park Renovation will allow us to create a safe and welcoming atmosphere for residents and visitors alike, spurring reinvestment, and this project will help counter or help mitigate such a crisis in the future; now;

Therefore, be it resolved; the Lathrup Village Downtown Development Authority has committed \$75,000 of funds from our fund balance, and will be embarking upon a crowdfunding campaign to secure additional matching funds for the Municipal Park Renovations. We are confident our project meets or exceeds the goals of the Revitalization and Placemaking 2.0 Grant Program.

---

Date

Fred Prime, Chair, Lathrup Village Downtown Development Authority