



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

TO: Historic District Commission
FROM: Mike Greene – City Administrator
DATE: August 13, 2025
RE: DIA Mural

Background Brief: The City is seeking to install a painted mural on the south side of the City Hall facility (near the employee entrance). During the August 2024 City Council meeting, the City Council approved applying for the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) Partners in Public Art Program (PIPA) for the City of Lathrup Village. The Detroit Institute of Arts' Partners in Public Art (PIPA) program is a collaboration with municipalities and organizations throughout southeast Michigan to co-create community-driven, highly visible public works of art.

This program helps people explore their sense of community through a collaborative design and creation process, producing works of public art that express the unique stories and interests of each community.

The City was officially notified of being approved as part of the program in fall 2024. The City then worked with the DIA to publish a public survey seeking feedback on the theme/style for a potential mural to be located on City Hall. Utilizing that feedback, the City worked with a DIA-approved artist to visualize a mural. After a number of concepts and revisions, the enclosed mural design has been reviewed by the City Council and approved by the DIA.

From the artist:

This illustration offers a serene vision of community and coexistence, centered around a golden tree that radiates warmth and vitality. Surrounding the tree are beloved symbols of harmony and renewal: a white dove in -flight, a deer in stillness, songbirds perched in its branches, and a rabbit nestled among the blooms. The house beneath the tree signifies stability and home, while the surrounding wild-flowers and sunflowers nod to resilience and joy that flourish in a nurtured environment. The balanced composition and rich, earthy colors create a folk-art feel, grounding the scene in both tradition and storytelling. Altogether, the piece celebrates the quiet power of nature, peace, and belonging, reminding us that community thrives when rooted in kindness and care.

Based on City Attorney feedback, the definition of “alteration” under our ordinance includes any exterior modification, and it is advised to seek HDC approval before proceeding.

Previous Action: N/A

Economic Impact: N/A

Recommendation: It is my recommendation to approve the DIA PIPA Mural.

Recommended Motion:

Moved by commissioner _____, seconded by commissioner _____
to approve the DIA PIPA Mural at 27400 Southfield Road.

Kelly Garrett
Mayor

Bruce Kantor
Mayor Pro-Tem

Jalen Jennings
Council Member

Jason Hammond
Council Member

Maria Mannarino
Council Member