

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 17, 2026
RE: TABLED ITEM – Sarrackwood Park Playscape Removal

Background Brief: After reviewing the condition of the equipment, the Parks & Recreation Committee recommends that the play structure be removed in its entirety to eliminate the potential for injury and reduce the City's liability exposure.

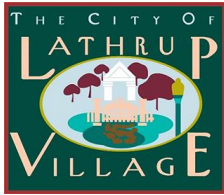
The Parks & Recreation Committee is currently awaiting the completion of the City's Master Plan update and the associated community engagement results before making long-term recommendations for Sarrackwood Park. Depending on the community's vision and future funding opportunities, the Committee may recommend replacing the playground with a new playscape when funding becomes available or transitioning the park into a formal passive greenspace. Removing the existing unsafe equipment at this time does not predetermine the park's future use but ensures the site is safe while long-term planning continues.

DPS believes they can complete the removal. It may take up to two weeks to fully complete while they fit this project into their schedule. To ensure safety, the City would close the park playground area during the removal.

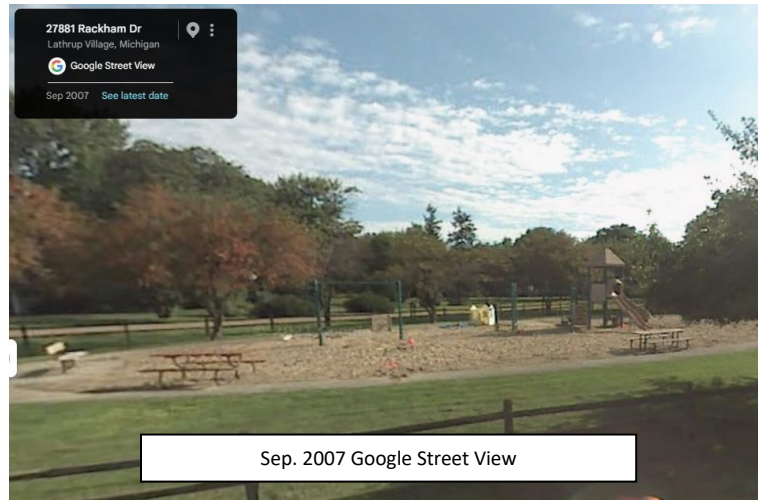
Staff was unable to find any formal installation documents for this park, noting its exact age. However, we can tell that the plastic slide components of the playspace were manufactured in 1994 (NOTE: this does not mean it was installed in 1994). Based on previous unsuccessful DNR recreation passport 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.
- Wooden elements: Treated wood lasts 10 to 15 years if regularly sealed against rot and pests.



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During the August 6, 2026 Parks & Recreation committee meeting, a representative from Sinclair Recreation, LLC was able to share their thoughts on the play structure and noted that while the structure is not aesthetically pleasing, it does appear to be structurally sound.

Previous Action:

7-9-26 – Parks & Recreation Approved Recommendation

7-20-26 – Tabled by Council

8-3-26 – Study Session Discussion

Economic Impact: N/A

Recommendation: Parks & Recreation Committee recommends the removal of the Sarrackwood Park Playscape due to its condition.

Recommended Motion:

Moved by Councilmember, _____ seconded by Councilmember _____, to remove the item from the table.

Moved by Councilmember, _____ seconded by Councilmember _____, to approve the Parks & Recreation Committee recommendation and authorize the removal of the Sarrackwood Park Playscape.

Bruce Kantor
Mayor

Kelly Garrett
Mayor Pro-Tem

Jalen Jennings
Council Member

Jason Hammond
Council Member

John Sousanis
Council Member