

May 13, 2025

Susan Montenegro  
Manager  
City of Lathrup Village  
27400 Southfield Rd.  
Lathrup Village, MI 48076

Dear Manager Montenegro:

Oakland County appreciates the opportunity to provide accurate and cost-effective assessing services to the City of Lathrup Village and to dozens of other communities in our county. We hope to continue our partnership with you in the years ahead.

We are proud that Oakland County assessing services are performed by some of the most skilled and qualified professionals in Michigan, ensuring accuracy, fairness, and legal compliance. Communities we serve receive a wide array of benefits, including:

- State-certified, full-time professional assessors
- Consistent and compliant assessment practices
- Up-to-date property record systems
- Ongoing staff training and support
- Support at the Michigan Tax Tribunal at no additional cost

As you know, the Board of Commissioners recently adopted uniform per-parcel assessing rates for the next three years. While the cost of providing assessing services has increased over time, the county's rates have not kept up with those increases. While the new rates reflect the actual cost of providing such services, they are also lower than the average \$33 per parcel cost paid by municipalities in Oakland County which do their own assessing.

The Board also adopted a three-year rate smoothing plan with a lower initial rate in the first year followed by larger increases in the second and third years, giving municipalities the option of adjusting to the new cost structure more gradually.

Enclosed is a new three-year assessing services contract for your consideration, including:

- Comprehensive Assessment Services to be provided (See Section 3)
- Assistance with appealed assessments involving the “Michigan Tax Tribunal” and “Tribunal” (See Section 4)
- “Initial” Rate per Parcel per Contract Period (See Section 10.2)
- The “Smoothed” rate per parcel per Contract Period so you can evaluate whether this option is better for your community

If you have questions about the contract, the new rates, how the smoothing plan works or the services we provide, please feel free to contact me at [lohmeierm@oakgov.com](mailto:lohmeierm@oakgov.com) or (248) 858-0760.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide assessing services to the City of Lathrup Village.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Lohmeier, MMAO, PPE, MAI, SRA, FASA, RES  
Equalization Officer