

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 31, 2026
RE: Municipal Park Playscape Project Deposit

Background Brief: At the request of the Mayor & Mayor Pro-Tem, this Special Meeting was called to continue the discussion related to the Municipal Park Playscape project.

As the City Council is aware, there are multiple funding sources associated with the Municipal Park Playscape project. One funding source is via ARPA funds from Oakland County that need to be spent before the end of August 2026, or the City will lose that funding. To maintain the project timeline and ensure compliance with the City's ARPA spending obligations, staff is seeking City Council approval to authorize payment of the required project deposit before receiving final DNR project sign-off.

The deposit represents project expenditure and will allow the City to demonstrate timely use of the ARPA funding while the remaining approval process is completed. The project does not need to be fully completed by the end of August 2026; therefore, depositing at this time will satisfy the applicable spending timeline while allowing the City to proceed with construction once final DNR approval is received.

Sinclair Recreation, LLC is a MiDeal-approved vendor and will take the deposit from the City and hold the funds. In the event plans need to change based on DNR feedback, Sinclair will issue the funds back to the City. MiDEAL is the State of Michigan's Extended Purchasing Program. In simple terms, it allows a Michigan municipality, such as the City of Lathrup Village, to take advantage of contracts that the State of Michigan has already competitively bid and awarded, rather than conducting separate solicitations for every purchase. The program has existed since 1984 and is authorized under Michigan law.

The Council has requested additional information regarding alternate surfacing and estimated costs. Their write-up is included. In summary, what they provided outlines two alternatives to PIP playground surfacing: Engineered Wood Fiber (EWF) and synthetic turf with a cushion system. EWF is the least expensive option, estimated at \$12,000–\$14,000 installed, but requires more frequent maintenance, including raking and periodic top-offs to maintain the required 12-inch depth. However, this does not appear to meet the ADA requirements of the Trust Fund grant. Synthetic turf offers accessibility and a seamless surface with fewer displacement issues, but has a higher initial cost, approximately the same as PIP, and requires ongoing grooming, cleaning, seam inspections, and more difficult repairs. The document also clarifies that PIP does not require automatic resurfacing every two years; rather, a two-year condition assessment is recommended, with routine inspections and localized repairs as needed and more significant maintenance potentially occurring around years 4–5 or later depending on use and conditions. Overall, EWF is the best option for minimizing upfront costs, while PIP and synthetic turf provide stronger options for accessibility, durability, and lower routine maintenance.

They believe PIP is the best option for ADA, appearance, wear, maintenance, and long-term satisfaction. Especially if the City added the small granule for the high-use areas under swings, slide exits, and around the inclusive whirl.

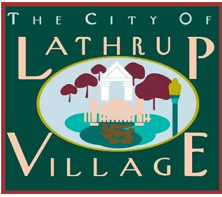
Bruce Kantor
Mayor

Kelly Garrett
Mayor Pro-Tem

Jalen Jennings
Council Member

Jason Hammond
Council Member

John Sousanis
Council Member



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

As for the safety of PIP:

- The [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#), [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC/ATSDR\)](#), and the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) jointly conducted the largest U.S. study of recycled tire crumb rubber under the Federal Research Action Plan (FRAP).
 - Key findings include:
 - Recycled tire rubber contains numerous chemicals, including metals and organic compounds that originate from tires.
 - Only small amounts of most organic chemicals were released into the air during field testing.
 - Only 1–3% of most metals were found to be bioaccessible (available for absorption by the human body).
 - Biomonitoring of athletes found metal concentrations similar to the general U.S. population.
 - Researchers found no measurable difference in PAH metabolites in urine between people using synthetic turf with tire crumb and those using natural grass fields.
 - The agencies concluded that the research did not identify evidence of elevated health risks from typical recreational exposure, but also noted that additional research continues because uncertainties remain.
- The [U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission \(CPSC\)](#) has not concluded that playground surfaces made from recycled tire rubber are hazardous.
 - Instead, CPSC states:
 - No specific chemical hazards from recycled tire playground surfacing are currently known.
 - It continues to evaluate children's exposure through an ongoing risk assessment.
 - As a precaution, CPSC recommends:
 - Washing hands after playground use.
 - Avoiding eating while on rubber surfaces.
 - Discouraging children from chewing or swallowing rubber pieces.
 - Limiting time on extremely hot playgrounds.

Previous Action:

8-17-26 – Tabled Item

8-24-26 – Approval Failed

Economic Impact:

- \$135,767 – ARPA Funding (City has received ~\$100,000 of this funding, and the additional funding is requested after the deposit is made)
- \$141,935.94 – Deposit to Sinclair Recreation (also keeps the City eligible for the GameTime grant)
- \$6,168.94 – Net Cost (Opportunity for this to be reimbursed via Trust Fund Grant)

Recommendation: It is my recommendation to approve the deposit.

Recommended Motion:

Moved by Councilmember, _____ seconded by Councilmember _____, to approve a Municipal Park Playscape Project deposit with Sinclair Recreation, LLC in the amount of \$141,935.94.

Bruce Kantor
Mayor

Kelly Garrett
Mayor Pro-Tem

Jalen Jennings
Council Member

Jason Hammond
Council Member

John Sousanis
Council Member