



City of Lathrup Village
27400 Southfield Road
Lathrup Village, MI 48076
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TO: DDA Board of Directors
FROM: Mike Greene – City Administrator
DATE: May 17, 2024
RE: Community & Economic Development Director Confirmation

Background Brief: As the DDA Board is aware, the DDA/City's Community & Economic Development Director left the City for another opportunity at the beginning of May 2024. During the April 19, 2024, DDA meeting, the board formed a hiring committee consisting of City Administrator Greene, and board members Huey & Shermeyer to bring a candidate recommendation to the rest of the board for approval.

With our former Director providing substantial notification of their departure, the City was able to be proactive in placing the job posting while they were still employed. The City had a Community & Economic Development Director posting available via MML and the Michigan Association of Planning (MAP) for over 30 days. The committee reviewed seven applications that were received and invited three applicants for interviews (with only two committing to interviews).

While both finalists brought a unique skill set to the table, Austin Colson stood out from the pack as an individual who can handle the day-to-day duties of this position while bringing new ideas to the Board that can benefit the district.

Mr. Colson would be coming to the City from the City of Hamtramck where he served as the Assistant Community & Economic Development / DDA Manager. Before Hamtramck, Mr. Colson spent a decade in various roles at the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART).

If confirmed, Mr. Colson's anticipated start date would be Monday, June 3rd, 2024.

Previous Action: April 19, 2024 – Formation of hiring committee.

Economic Impact: Below is the estimated cost (salary + insurance/retirement benefits) of this employee working for the City of Lathrup Village.

Department	Cost Split	Proposed Salary	Benefits
DDA	90%	\$ 72,000	\$ 15,750
General	10%	\$ 8,000	\$ 1,750
<i>Total</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>\$ 80,000</i>	<i>\$ 17,500</i>

Recommendation: It is my recommendation to confirm Austin Colson as the Community & Economic Development Director for the City of Lathrup Village.

Recommended Motion:

Moved by Board Member _____ seconded by Board Member _____ to confirm Austin Colson as the Community & Economic Development Director for the City of Lathrup Village.

Kelly Garrett
Mayor

Bruce Kantor
Mayor Pro-Tem

Jalen Jennings
Council Member

Dalton Barksdale
Council Member

Jason Hammond
Council Member