

# memorandum

**DATE:** May 13, 2026

**TO:** Lathrup Village Planning Commission

**FROM:** Eric Pietsch, Jill Bahm, and Hannah Prins, Giffels Webster

**SUBJECT:** Comprehensive Plan Update –Economic Development Study Session & Parks and Recreation Kickoff

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We will use our meeting on May 19 to further discuss the topic of economic development at the 6:00 P.M. study session with the Planning Commission. The study session will be followed by the kickoff for this month's discussion on parks and recreation at 7:00 P.M.

## Please note our progress for the 2026 Comprehensive Plan Engagement Phase:

- ✓ **Surveys.** Four surveys are now live: Housing, Transportation, Economic Development, and Parks and Recreation. All four surveys are available on the hub website on the Join the Conversation page. We encourage city staff and commissioners to continue to leverage community communication channels and collaborate on spreading the word about the surveys, activities, and events for the comprehensive plan update.

The surveys are open until May 31, 2026, but so far, each survey has:

- Housing – 223 responses
- Transportation – 71 responses
- Economic Development – 51 responses
- Parks and Recreation – 46 responses

## Preparation for the study session on Economic Development:

- **Review the 2021 Comprehensive Plan.** Particularly the Future Land Use chapter from pages 43-46, the Commercial Corridors/Downtown Plan chapter from pages 63-80, and page 95-96 for the Commercial Development action strategy.
- **Review the previously provided data on economic development in Lathrup Village.**
  - About the datasets: In most cases, we have gathered U.S. Census Data from the American Community Survey 5-year estimates. If you would like to learn more about this dataset you may visit:
    - <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/about.html>
    - <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/guidance/estimates.html>
- **Review the previously provided economic development resources packet.** (Note: resource packets can be found at <https://giffelswebster.sharefile.com/public/share/web-s42042d07105041df8f9e34fdc3d5e6d2>)
- **Prepare any questions you may have or note resources or data you would like to have.**

## Preparation for the regular meeting on Parks and Recreation:

- **Review the 2021 Comprehensive Plan.**
  - Land Use chapter on Open Space page 45 and the Future Land Use map on page 46.
  - Resiliency & Sustainability chapter on pages 47-54.
  - View the neighborhoods map on page 55 for reference to the parks in relation to each neighborhood area.
- **Become familiar with the previous 2021 Recreation Plan, this can be accessed in the provided resource packet.**
- **Over the next month, review the provided resource packet on parks and recreation topics for the study session in June.**
  - The selected resources are meant to spark conversation, illustrate actionable strategies, and point to successful models that communities can consider for local adaptation. The packet is not a complete collection, further materials addressing other topics or deeper dives may be introduced as community needs evolve.

## Parks and Recreation in Lathrup Village:

The City of Lathrup Village has five municipal parks:

### **Lathrup Village Municipal Park**

This park is located directly behind the City's Municipal Building and encompasses two acres. It serves as the central gathering place for City events, including concerts in the park.

### **Annie Lathrup Park**

This two-acre park is adjacent to City Hall. It features a 1/4-mile walking/jogging path.

### **Goldengate Park**

This 2.5-acre park provides opportunities for residents in the south section of the City, south of I-696, west of Southfield Road. The park's playground equipment was updated in 2012.

### **Sarrackwood Park**

This 3/4-acre park is located at Saratoga, Rackham, and Woodworth Way streets. It serves the local neighborhood in the northeast quadrant of the City.

### **Dorothy Warren Park**

This 1/2-acre park is located on Rainbow Drive in the northeast portion of the city. It is undeveloped but is maintained with a grassy lawn.

## Goals from the 2021 Recreation Master Plan

- **Take Care of Existing Parks and Recreational Facilities.**
  - To maintain continue cleanliness and functionality of recreation parks, facilities, and grounds.
  - Continue to build the volunteer base to help with park maintenance and increase pride in local parks.
  
- **Provide a Variety of New and Improved Recreation Facilities for Public Use.**
  - Develop neighborhood parks according to the residents' preferences and community knowledge.
  - Continue to work with adjoining communities to develop a non-motorized multi-use trail loop and system.

## Parks and Schools Map

- **See parks map on the following page.**

