



CITY OF NOVI CITY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 10, 2025

SUBJECT: Consideration of a resolution requested by Lake Area Homeowners Association's to participate in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Goose Nest Destruction Program for Walled Lake and Shawood Lake.

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: City Manager

KEY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Canadian geese are federally protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Disturbing nests with goose eggs present can be done only under special permit, which can be applied for only when other techniques have been unsuccessful.
- The Lakes Area Homeowners Association (LAHA) is submitting a permit application for the Canadian Goose Nest/Egg Destruction Program to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR).
- Their application is required to be accompanied by a resolution from the local government, in this case, City of Novi, for the permit to be issued by the MDNR.
- City Council previously approved resolutions supporting LAHA in their goose management efforts in 2014 and 2020.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Lakes Area Homeowners Association (LAHA), which represents homeowners living around Walled Lake and Shawood Lake, has proposed to apply to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) for a permit to participate in the Canada Goose Nest/Egg Destruction Program. In the attached letter, LAHA is requesting a resolution of support from the City of Novi, which MDNR requires to accompany LAHA's application. The City Council approved similar requests by LAHA on December 8, 2014, and February 24, 2020.

The enclosed information circular from the MDNR provides additional information about the program. According to the MDNR, nest destruction is an effective means to encourage migration of adult geese breeding to the north. LAHA has not identified specific locations for nest destruction but will be contacting property owners once the locations are determined to seek permission.

If approved, the goose nest destruction would occur for the next five years. LAHA would fund, administer, and coordinate the effort with Goose Busters, a State of Michigan DNR licensed contractor, and would require no funding or additional effort from the City beyond consideration of this resolution. LAHA is also required to notify any lakefront landowners or sites with multiple property owners of ongoing activities.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval of a resolution supporting the Lake Area Homeowners Association's request to participate in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Goose Nest Destruction Program for Walled Lake and Shawood Lake.