

NEWS RELEASE

Commissioner Charles successfully secures county funds to improve, repair Lathrup Village roads

June 24, 2021, OAKLAND COUNTY, MI. – On June 17, 2021, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution sponsored by Commissioner **Yolanda S. Charles** (D- Southfield) securing \$21,761 for Lathrup Village through the county's Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP). These funds will be used to help with road maintenance requirements and other road repairs. Lathrup Village plans to use the funds to help with the reconstruction of Santa Barbara Road.

"I am very proud part of this project, which will improve travel for the residents and visitors of Lathrup Village," Charles said. "Oakland County's LRIP dollars are certainly being put to good use."

Oakland County's LRIP provides limited financial assistance to Oakland County cities and villages for repairs and improvements on roadways under their jurisdiction. The program ensures that the county investment in roads is multiplied by requiring local municipalities to match funding from Oakland County. Launched in 2016, the LRIP has driven an estimated \$108 million investment in local roads across the county. The program is an effective means for encouraging investment in local roads, which continue to be underfunded by the State of Michigan. This lack of funding from the state and federal government has resulted in poor road conditions, which negatively impact safety, quality of life and economic development in the region.

"We are very excited because this is a great opportunity for us to address some road repairs here in Lathrup Village that are top priorities for our residents as well as the mayor and council," Sheryl Mitchell, Lathrup Village city administrator, said. "This is a very proactive program that the Board is extending to the local communities to address critical infrastructure needs."

In 2017, the Board of Commissioners' LRIP received national recognition when it was selected for a National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Award in the category of Community and Economic Development.

Commissioner Charles represents the 17th county commission district, which includes the City of Lathrup Village, as well as portions of the cities of Oak Park and Southfield. She can be reached at 248-807-4363 or via email to charlesy@oakgov.com.

For more information, please contact the Board of Commissioners at 248-858-0100 or visit its website at www.oakgov.com/boc.

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