

NEWS RELEASE

Commissioner Nelson successfully secures county funds to improve, repair Orchard Lake, Keego Harbor and Sylvan Lake roads

July 8, 2021, OAKLAND COUNTY, MI. – On June 17, 2021, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution sponsored by Commissioner **Kristen Nelson** (D-Waterford Twp.) securing \$14,800 for the City of Orchard Lake Village, the Village of Keego Harbor and the Village of Sylvan Lake through the county's Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP).

"I am happy to assist Keego Harbor, Sylvan Lake, and Orchard Lake with securing funding for local road improvement projects," Nelson said. "This will help keep our roads safe for the residents, businesses and visitors in our communities."

These funds will be used to help with road maintenance requirements and other road repairs. Orchard Lake Village plans to use \$5,215 to help with drainage improvements at road edge and re-gravel road edges for safe travel on Old Orchard Trail. Keego Harbor plans to use \$5,182 to help with the restoration of various local roads. Sylvan Lake plans to use \$4,403 to help with the removal and replacement of areas of deteriorated local asphalt streets.

"The additional road funding provided by Oakland County through the Local Road Improvement Program allows us to provide safe and stable means for residents to access the commercial shopping district and for members of the Orchard Lake Country Club," Gerry McCallum, Orchard Lake Village director of city services, said.

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 continue to restore roads in Keego Harbor, without placing an increased financial burden on our residents," Brian Lampl, Keego Harbor mayor, said. "The funding that the Oakland County Board of Commissioners granted us for this year will be used to advance our efforts to improve our aging local roads. We are very appreciative of the financial assistance that the Oakland County Board has provided."

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.

"The continuation of this program is wonderful for our community," John Martin, Sylvan Lake city manager, said. "The Board's support helps us fill the gap left from decreased funding from the state, allowing us to make improvements to our streets."

Commissioner Nelson represents the 5th county commission district, which includes the cities of Keego Harbor, Orchard Lake Village and Sylvan Lake, as well as portions of Waterford and West Bloomfield townships. She can be reached at 248-496-7968 or via email to nelsonkd@oakgov.com.

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

#