

NEWS RELEASE

Commissioners Cavell, Charles successfully secure county funds to improve, repair Oak Park roads

July 8, 2021, OAKLAND COUNTY, MI. – On June 17, 2021, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution sponsored by Commissioners **Charlie Cavell** (D-Ferndale) and **Yolanda S. Charles** (D-Southfield) securing \$69,171 for the City of Oak Park through the county's Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP).

"The communities on Oakland County's south end are some of the most visited in the region," Cavell said. "I am glad to have helped the area receive county funding to improve the infrastructure in this area so that residents and visitors alike can enjoy safe and smooth roads."

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

These funds will be used to help with road maintenance requirements and other road repairs. Oak Park plans to use the funds to help with improvements to crosswalks on Coolidge.

"Improving our local infrastructure is a top priority," Erik Tungate, Oak Park city manager, said. "The support we receive through our partners in Oakland County will greatly enhance the work we're already doing and has proven to be an invaluable resource."

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.

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 Cavell represents the 18th county commission district, which includes the cities of Ferndale, Hazel Park, Huntington Woods and Royal Oak Township, as well as a portion of the City of Oak Park. He can be reached at 248-807-4347 or via email to cavellc@oakgov.com.

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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