

NEWS RELEASE

Commissioner Markham successfully secures county funds to improve, repair Novi roads

September 8, 2020, OAKLAND COUNTY, MI. – On July 23, 2020, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution sponsored by Commissioner **Gwen Markham** (D-Novi) securing \$125,984 for the City of Novi through the county's Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP). These funds will be used to help with road maintenance requirements and other road repairs. Novi plans to use the funds to help with the concrete reconstruction of Jo Drive.

"By matching local road dollars, we help local communities make road improvements that may otherwise have been delayed," Markham said. "I'm glad the county has been able to help in improving the roads around Novi, especially during this pandemic."

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 \$89 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.

"It pleases me to know the Board of Commissioners will once again partner with communities to provide funding for a portion of local roads," Peter Auger, Novi city manager, said. "In effect since 2016, this program enhances the importance our elected City officials place on road improvements and the value they provide to our residents. This program and partnership between the city and county is a wonderful model and sets the stage for additional projects in the future."

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 Markham represents the 9th county commission district, which includes the cities of Northville and Novi, and Novi Township. She can be reached at 248-921-9336 or via email to markhamq@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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