

NEWS RELEASE

Commissioner Spisz successfully secures county funds to improve, repair Leonard, Ortonville and Oxford roads

September 8, 2020, OAKLAND COUNTY, MI. – On July 23, 2020, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution sponsored by Commissioner **Michael Spisz** (R-Oxford) securing \$20,678 for the villages of Leonard, Ortonville and Oxford through the county's Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP).

"It is always good to see our local communities taking advantage of programs that help improve their infrastructure," Spisz said. "I am proud to have supported this program, which not only helps our local communities, but also continues to make Oakland County a great place to live."

These funds will be used to help with road maintenance requirements and other road repairs. Leonard plans to use \$3,032 to help with the restoration of various roads. Ortonville plans to use \$5,435 to help with crack fill on various streets. Oxford plans to use \$12,211 to help with downtown streetscape and traffic calming improvements.

"The Oakland County Board of Commissioners Local Road Improvement Program and our County Commissioner Michael Spisz have provided assistance to the Village of Leonard, and funded important road improvements in the Village that enhance the downtown business area with improved safety and accessibility on our local roads," Michael McDonald, village president, 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 \$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.

“The county's LRIP program is a brilliant example of municipal cooperation,” Dale Stuart, Ortonville village manager, said. “The streets in Ortonville are being maintained at a level of excellence that we would not be able to attain without the county's help.”

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 Village of Oxford and our residents thank the Oakland County Board of Commissioners for the Local Road Improvement Program funding for our Washington Street streetscape project,” Joseph Madore, village manager, said. “These funds will greatly enhance the Washington Street corridor and make our community more accessible, appealing and safer for years to come.”

Commissioner Spisz represents the 3rd county commission district, which includes Addison, Brandon, Oakland and Oxford townships, and the villages of Leonard, Ortonville and Oxford. He can be reached at 248-705-8634 or via email to spiszm@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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