

NEWS RELEASE

Commissioner McGillivray successfully secures county funds to improve, repair Madison Heights and Pleasant Ridge roads

September 8, 2020, OAKLAND COUNTY, MI. – On July 23, 2020, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution sponsored by Commissioner **Gary McGillivray** (D-Madison Heights) securing \$91,172 for the cities of Madison Heights and Pleasant Ridge through the county's Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP).

"Local municipalities have been struggling for several years to adequately fund their local roads," McGillivray said. "This program allows Oakland County to help with some repair and maintenance projects by setting up partnership with cities or villages to share the costs. I am pleased to be able to help make the roads in our communities safer."

These funds will be used to help with road maintenance requirements and other road repairs. Madison Heights plans to use \$81,493 to help with sectional concrete repair on Whitcomb Avenue. Pleasant Ridge plans to use \$9,679 to help with annual concrete street maintenance on various roads.

"Madison Heights residents will benefit directly from the resources being made available," Melissa Marsh, city manager, said. "We are very fortunate to have a partnership with Oakland County and Commissioner McGillivray who understand our funding needs and who have made road funding a priority, even 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.

“The Oakland County Board of Commissioners’ Local Road Improvement Program has been an important funding source in recent years that has allowed the City of Pleasant Ridge to perform necessary maintenance to our streets,” James Breuckman, city manager, said. “We are happy that the program has been continued this year, especially as we navigate this pandemic. Our residents and businesses will benefit from the street improvements made possible by this program for years to come.”

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 McGillivray represents the 20th county commission district, which includes the cities of Madison Heights and Pleasant Ridge, as well as portions of the cities of Troy and Royal Oak. He can be reached at 248-589-9207 or via email to gary.mcgillivray@yahoo.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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