

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **Oakland County Water Leaders Invite Legislators to See Work Firsthand**

*Tour and roundtable aim to foster transparency and regional collaboration on stormwater issues*

Madison Heights, MI – The Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner’s office (WRC) opened its doors today to Michigan state legislators, including those who have proposed legislation impacting the office’s operations, for a candid and collaborative dialogue on stormwater management.

“Transparency and collaboration are at the heart of what we do,” said Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner Jim Nash. “We welcomed the opportunity to engage directly with policymakers to discuss the complexities of stormwater management and the value of regional partnerships in protecting our communities and waterways.”

Participants toured the George W. Kuhn Retention Treatment Facility, where they saw firsthand the technology and operations that support water quality and flood prevention efforts for 14 Oakland County municipalities serving 186,000 residents. The roundtable discussion focused on legislative proposals under consideration in Lansing, the role of local government in water infrastructure planning, and the importance of aligning policy with science and community needs.

“Strong water infrastructure investments are crucial for healthy communities and effective stormwater management,” said Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy Director Phil Roos. “Oakland County’s work highlights the value of those investments — locally and regionally — as we work to more effectively manage stormwater. Regional collaboration is key to building resilient water systems in Southeast Michigan and across our state.”

The visit included Commissioner Nash, Phil Roos, Director of the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, Representative Donni Steele, Representative Robinson, Representative Aragona, Representative Jaime Greene, Representative Mike Harris, Representative Mai Xiong, Representative Veronica Pais, Representative Alicia St. Germaine, Representative Denise Mentzer, Representative Mike McFall, Senator Jeremy Moss and Senator Rosemary Bayer. The event aimed to foster greater understanding of Oakland County’s mission, showcase the effectiveness of local water infrastructure investments, and promote evidence-based approaches to managing stormwater in a changing climate.

“Today’s visit underscores the importance of seeing the pressures on our water systems — and the solutions — up close,” said Senator Jeremy Moss. “Oakland County is leading by example with its innovative approach to stormwater management, and it’s clear that strong regional partnerships and smart investments are essential to building a resilient water future for Michigan.”

The WRC emphasized its commitment to working with all stakeholders to ensure sustainable, equitable, and resilient water systems for current and future generations.

### **About Oakland County Water Resources**

We prioritize public health, environmental preservation, and the delivery of dependable water and sewer services. Learn more about our efforts and services at [oakgov.com/water](https://oakgov.com/water).

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