

NEWS RELEASE

Commissioner Long successfully secures county funds to improve, repair Walled Lake and Wolverine Lake roads

May 24, 2018, Pontiac, Mich. – On Thursday, May 17, 2018, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners adopted resolutions sponsored by Commissioner Christine Long securing \$13,559 for Walled Lake roads and \$7,509 for Wolverine Lake roads through the county’s Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP). These funds will be used to help with road maintenance requirements and other road repairs. The City of Walled Lake plans to use the funds for the rehabilitation of local streets and the Village of Wolverine Lake plans to use the funds on Benstein Road Pathway.

“It is a great pleasure to be able to provide funding for the City of Walled Lake and the Village of Wolverine Lake from the county’s Local Road Improvement Program,” said Commissioner Christine Long. “These much needed dollars will aid in improving road safety within these communities.”

“Walled Lake is appreciative of the County’s support in helping us address the funding shortage for the critically deteriorating local roads,” said Mayor Linda Ackley.

“Wolverine Lake was excited to learn that we have been awarded this grant by the Oakland County Board of Commissioners,” said Village Administrator Nathan Burd. “This has been a long desired project here inside our village and the nearby businesses, neighborhoods and residents will all benefit greatly from this grant.”

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, it has driven an estimated \$20 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 investment 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.

“Oakland County is demonstrating leadership and innovation by making this critical investment in immediate road repairs,” said Board Chairman Michael J. Gingell. “Our residents expect us to work together to maintain the excellent quality of life we enjoy in Oakland County. Under the leadership of County Executive L. Brooks Patterson and his team, and with the ongoing bi-partisan efforts of the Board of Commissioners, we are committed to doing all we can to improve our local road infrastructure and address the needs that have been created due to the lack of state funding.”

Last year, the Board of Commissioners LRIP received national recognition when it was selected for a 2017 National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Award in the category of Community and Economic Development.

Commissioner Christine Long is a Republican who represents the 7th District, which includes Commerce Township, West Bloomfield Township, the City of Walled Lake and the Village of Wolverine Lake. She was first elected to the Oakland County Board of Commissioners in 2002. Commissioner Long can be reached by phone at 248-787-6247 or via email to longc@oakgov.com.

For more information, please contact the Board of Commissioners at 248-858-0100 or visit their website at www.oakgov.com/boc.

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