



MAYOR
WILLIAM R. WILD



CityofWestland.com

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Westland Mayor William R. Wild to Attend Meet and Greet with President Joe Biden

Westland, MI (May 17, 2021) -On Tuesday, May 18, President Joe Biden will visit Southeast Michigan for the first time since becoming the 46th President of the United States. Westland's Mayor William R. Wild will be among those officials invited to meet and greet with the President upon his arrival.

Biden will be in Dearborn to tour the Ford Rouge Electric Vehicle Center just one day before Ford is set to unveil the all-new, all-electric F-150 Lightning on May 19. The company has recently bumped up its investment in electric vehicles as industry analysts predict global EV sales will snowball in the coming years.

Biden continues to promote his \$2.3 trillion infrastructure plan, which calls for the construction of 500,000 electric vehicle charging stations by 2030 in what would be a shift away from gasoline-powered cars.

"President Biden's focus on environmentally friendly infrastructure is in line with the work we are doing at the local level, here in Westland," commented Mayor William R. Wild.

The City of Westland has already begun promoting the shift to greener transportation, having approved the installation of four electric vehicle charging stations on city-owned property last month.

Additionally, Westland's proposed FY2021-22 budget includes funding for the purchase of a Ford all electric F-150 Lightning for the Westland Police Department to utilize as a community police vehicle. Westland will purchase the new Lightning from Westland based, North Brothers Ford.

"We are so excited to introduce the all new Ford F-150 Electric Lightning truck to our very forward thinking city," commented Doug North, owner of North Brothers Ford.

To help offset the costs, the City of Westland approved an EV-mobility and Economic Stimulus Program Memorandum of Understanding (MOI) with AAW Infrastructure Partners, L3C. The program, which has no cost to the City, promotes the acquisition of electric vehicles by having overages paid for directly by the vendor. Historically, electric vehicles are more expensive than

standard models, due to this, AAW will pay Cities the difference of these more expensive vehicles as an incentive to begin updating fleets to electric options, where applicable.

"I am extremely optimistic about a more sustainable future when I see leadership from both the public and private sector working on greener transportation alternatives in conjunction with one another," Wild concluded.

For more information, please call (734) 467-3200.

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Westland, Michigan is the state's 10th largest municipality, with a population of over 84,000.

Westland has been recognized as one of 24/7 Wall Street's America's Best 50 Cities to Live, offering residents and visitors an ideal blend of single – family affordable homes, apartments and condominiums, great schools, and access to numerous outdoor activities. Public safety is delivered by full-service, professional law enforcement and firefighting personnel.

Westland is well known as a premier destination for shopping and dining in Wayne County with hundreds of shops and restaurants anchored by the Westland shopping Center, one of the country's original four regional malls.

The City is served by two public school districts. Wayne-Westland Community Schools serving 12,000 youth was recently named one of the best schools in Michigan by WXYZ-TV and is the proud recipient of 14 Golden Apple and two Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary School Awards. Livonia Public Schools, educating nearly 15,000 students, is proud of their MEAP/MME scores that exceed State averages and the district has also earned Golden Apple and Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary School awards.

The City provides competitive incentives for those who are interested in investing in Westland, making it one of the hottest investment markets in the region. Westland's Fast-Track to Business Team, which consists of key decision makers who work diligently to "cut the red tape" and expedite the approval process for new business development.