



MAYOR  
**WILLIAM R. WILD**



CityofWestland.com

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Westland to Establish Comprehensive Economic Development Strategic Plan; Seeks Community Input**

**Westland, MI (May 24, 2021)** -The City of Westland is working to develop a formalized comprehensive Economic Development Strategic Plan. The goal of the economic development strategy is to identify initiatives and methods that will encourage diversity of the city's economic base, tap into opportunities for economic expansion and help to promote community wealth building. Development of a formalized Economic Development Strategic Plan is a requirement under the Michigan Economic Development Corporation's (MEDC) Redevelopment Ready Communities Program (RRC) and was identified as a priority for 2021 during strategic planning workshops with the City Council earlier this year.

In March, the City of Westland engaged with Bonner Advisory Group to assist with the creation of the strategic plan. The City received a grant from the Michigan Department of Treasury which will fund the project in its entirety.

The process for building the plan includes significant analytic research coupled with input obtained from the business community, residents, non-profit organizations and other key community stakeholders. In order to obtain this input, the City of Westland has developed a survey to gather insights and guide to plan formation.

Individuals interested in completing the survey, can do so by clicking the link below.

**<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WestlandStakeholderSurvey>**

The survey results and other important topics will be discussed during a strategic planning session which will take place at on June 30 at 5:30 p.m. in the Mayor Gene McKinney Grand Ballroom at Westland City Hall, located at 36300 Warren Rd. Interested individuals are encouraged to join in this collaborative discussion to help mobilize the City's efforts in the development and subsequent application of plan priorities.

"With the evolving market dynamics in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and potential economic implications, it is more important than ever that we define

our priorities and focus our efforts on projects and investments that will result in long-term economic stability and growth," commented Mayor William R. Wild.

For more information, please contact the Economic Development Department at (734)467-3264

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Westland, Michigan is the state's 10<sup>th</sup> 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.