



MAYOR  
**WILLIAM R. WILD**



CityofWestland.com

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Westland Seeks Public on Proposed Repurposing of Marshall School Into Recreation Center**

**Westland, MI (July 13, 2021)** - The City of Westland is currently exploring repurposing the vacant 120,000 square foot, Marshall Upper Elementary, which closed in 2020 and is slated for demolition. In February, the City entered into an agreement with Wayne-Westland Schools in order to conduct due diligence on the building to determine if it may be suitable to repurpose the space into a community/recreation center in a potential partnership with the Detroit Metro YMCA.

The building offers ample space, including 2 gymnasiums, a track, baseball and football fields, tennis facilities and band rooms, providing many opportunities for programable community assets.

In order to obtain public input, the City will be hosting two open houses at Marshall, located at 35100 Bayview St. The events will take place on:

***Saturday, July 24 from 9am to noon***  
and  
***Saturday, July 31 from 9 am to noon***

Residents are invited and encouraged to attend an open house where they will be welcome to explore the building and assist in the new vision for the space. Attendees can partake in self-guided tours and speak with members of the administration on potential re-use of each of the building's assets.

"Our team has a lot of great ideas and significant past success with retrofitting vacant space," commented Mayor William R. Wild. "The possibilities are endless and we are excited to hear from the residents on how they envision the site and what they'd like to see added to our recreational amenities."

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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.