



MAYOR  
**WILLIAM R. WILD**



CityofWestland.com

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Westland City Council Unanimously Approves Historic 3-Yr Balanced Budget**



**Westland, MI - (June 7, 2022)** - On Monday, June 6, the Westland City Council unanimously approved a 3-year balanced budget proposal for fiscal years 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 presented by Mayor William R. Wild. The 3-year budget proposal preserves a "rainy day" fund balance of approximately \$6.7 million.

Highlights of proposed \$72.4 million 2022-23 budget include:

- An overall taxable value increase of 6.15% derived from new development and rising real estate values
- \$5.5 million for improvements to the City's major and local roads throughout the City in 25 neighborhoods which includes 51 major and local roads
- \$4.7 million for an expansion to the William P. Faust Westland Public Library
- \$4.38 million for planned water & sewer capital projects in 6 neighborhoods and 41 roads throughout the City's 611 miles of water & sewer systems
- \$2.8 million for the establishment of a brand new, all-inclusive playscape at Tattan Park
- The creation of two additional positions within the Economic

Development Department; a Business Retention and Expansion Coordinator and a Business Attraction Coordinator

- Additional retiree healthcare contributions of \$438,500
- Four new budgeted positions in the Water and Sewer Department to staff a planned basement flooding mitigation team
- Funding through a partnership with the Wayne-Westland School District to implement a new crossing guard safety program which offers high level training, equipment and uniforms and doubles the current staffing numbers.
- \$150,000 to continue the City's voluntary Retiree Healthcare Cash Settlement Program, which received four interested retirees in the 2021-22 fiscal year, saving approximately \$800,000 to its OPEB liability
- Funding to allow for the continuation of the popular Neighborhood Makeover Program, now entering its 5th year

"The City of Westland achieved a major financial milestone in the history of the city with the adoption of this 3 year balanced budget, commented Mayor William R. Wild. "The City is in a strong financial position and a 3 year balanced budget is a recognized best practice in local government. It is indicative of the spirit of cooperation and the shared values on good governance and excellence shared between the administration and city council."

"Coming out of the pandemic, the city is only utilizing less than 20% of its ARPA allocation to replace lost revenue and establish a 3 year balanced budget, which is something the council, administration and our residents can be very proud of," commented City Council President, James Hart.

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

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The City of Westland, Michigan's 10<sup>th</sup> largest city, has a population of more than 85,000 residents and is located in western Wayne County; just minutes from downtown Detroit, 2 airports and major freeways. The City of Westland's Executive Branch is led by full-time Mayor William R. Wild, who was just re-elected to serve a four-year term in 2022. First elected in 2007, Mayor Wild is the City's longest serving Mayor. The Legislative Branch consists of seven City Council members.