



MAYOR
WILLIAM R. WILD



CityofWestland.com

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Westland City Council Pledges \$8 Million in American Rescue Act Funds for Community Center



Westland, MI (June 22, 2022) – On Monday, June 20, in a 6-0 vote, the Westland City Council adopted a Prepared Resolution to allocate an amount of not to exceed \$8,000,000 of the City's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds towards the development of a community center at the former Marshall School site. The City of Westland received \$12,966,016 as its second allocation under the ARPA.

"The Council has been working diligently with the administration to strategically allocate the funding and plans for this unique project. All of the Councilmembers have received input and great excitement for the Marshall Project from the residents, and that is reflected in this proposal to move forward on this transformational opportunity for our community," said James Hart, Westland City Council President.

The City of Westland has been working closely with The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and Wayne Metro Community Action Agency in a partnership to revision the vacant 143,000 square foot school, located at 35100 Bayview. Marshall sits on 19.4 acres and has been vacant since 2019. The total estimated budget for the project is \$20.5 million.

"The City has been working hard to secure funding from various sources to turn this vision into a reality," commented Mayor William R. Wild. "City Council's official commitment of funding for the project will allow us to leverage those funds to work to secure the additional funding needed from Wayne County and the State of Michigan."

The City Council held a study session to discuss the project on Tuesday, June 14. Wayne

County Business Development Manager, Dave Schreiber, spoke at the meeting to explain the County's process and requirements for requesting County ARPA funds, which included a commitment of funds from the local municipality. The Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) has allocated \$500,000 towards the project and requests have been made for an additional allocation of \$3.5 million from the city's Congressional Representatives, Gary Peters and Rashida Tlaib.

The proposed project scope includes exterior upgrades, including a new facade and parking/sidewalks/landscape), building envelope (Roofing/Doors/Windows), building retrofits for programs, entry revisions, locker rooms, corridors, hallways, fire suppression, interior finishes (Flooring/Ceilings), mechanical, electrical, plumbing, technology and security upgrades.



"Through market studies and public engagement sessions, our residents have indicated a strong desire for increased recreational opportunities as well as a desire to revision the former Marshall School," commented Mayor Wild. "This allocation will continue to explore partnerships and conduct our necessary due diligence to determine the building's potential."

The City will continue its planning and due diligence with the goal of executing a purchase agreement with Wayne Westland Community Schools by the end of 2022.

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The City of Westland, Michigan's 10th 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.