



CityofWestland.com

Mayor  
**Michael P. Londeau**



**For Immediate Release**

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## City of Westland Wins 2023 Apex Award for DEI Impact

**Westland, MI (November 1, 2023)** --- InCompass Michigan, the leading statewide network of human service organizations, has recently announced the City of Westland as winner of its 2023 Apex Award for being an outstanding employer with a rich workplace culture that recognizes and celebrates diverse backgrounds, perspectives, skills and abilities.

Westland was nominated for the award by Aimee Szabo of Services to Enhance Potential (STEP).

"The award was designed to honor an organization that has fostered exceptional employment opportunities for people with disabilities and other barriers to community access in Michigan and demonstrated a commitment to inclusion and diversity in hiring practices, training and talent development," commented InCompass Michigan COO, Laurie Morse-Dell,

The City of Westland will accept the award at there: **con – The Convention of New Beginnings** event at Grand Traverse Resort in Acme Michigan on November 9, 2023.

With an increasingly diverse population of 86, 000, Michigan's 10<sup>th</sup> largest city, Westland, has 11.9% of its population under the age of 65 as persons with disabilities. Minorities, including Blacks, Asians and Hispanics, make up over 30% of the population.

"It is so heartwarming to know that our multifaceted effort in encouraging and deepening diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) in all aspects of our City is bearing good fruits, and getting recognized statewide," commented Westland Mayor Michael P. Londeau. "Adherence to City's Non-Discrimination Ordinance in all areas – from employment to housing – and keeping City buildings compliant with the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) remains an important part of Westland's strong commitment to accessibility and other DEI priorities. Additionally, we plan to collaboratively intensify and expand effort to ensure greater sense of belonging to all members of our community, especially minority groups, and persons living with disabilities.

For his part, Chief Diversity Officer, C. Paschal Eze, whose department spearheads the City's DEI efforts expressed gratitude to Mayor Londeau, City Council members, his colleagues, members of the Disability Advocacy Committee and the DEI Commission, and other stakeholders for joining forces to help mainstream DEI citywide.

"I believe the award will bolster our collective resolve and commitment. And as I have often posited, we all win when our workplaces, marketplaces, leisure and

growth places reflect real inclusion and equity," commented Eze.

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 Michael P. Londeau. The Legislative Branch consists of seven City Council members.

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