



Rochester Hills

Minutes - Draft

City Council Regular Meeting

1000 Rochester Hills Dr
Rochester Hills, MI 48309
(248) 656-4600
Home Page:
www.rochesterhills.org

*David J. Blair, Susan M. Bowyer Ph.D., Ryan Deel, Dale A. Hetrick, Carol Morlan,
Theresa Mungoli and David Walker*

Vision Statement: *The Community of Choice for Families and Business*

Mission Statement: *"Our mission is to sustain the City of Rochester Hills as the premier community of choice to live, work and raise a family by enhancing our vibrant residential character complemented by an attractive business community."*

Monday, July 24, 2023

7:00 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

CALL TO ORDER

President Deel called the Regular Rochester Hills City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Michigan Time.

ROLL CALL

Present 7 - David Blair, Susan M. Bowyer, Ryan Deel, Dale Hetrick, Carol Morlan, Theresa Mungoli and David Walker

Others Present:

*Dennis Andrews, Parks Manager
Bryan Barnett, Mayor
Chief Sean Canto, Fire Chief / Emergency Services Director
Paul Davis, Deputy Public Services Director / City Engineer
Ken Elwert, Parks & Natural Resources Director
Bill Fritz, Public Services Director
Rochelle Lyon, Information Systems Director
Chris McLeod, Planning Manager
Leanne Scott, City Clerk
Joe Snyder, Chief Financial Officer
John Staran, City Attorney
Maria Willett, Chief of Staff*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Walker, seconded by Hetrick, that the Agenda be Approved as Presented. The motion CARRIED by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morlan, Mungoli and Walker

COUNCIL AND YOUTH COMMITTEE REPORTS

Rochester Hills Government Youth Council (RHGYC):

President Deel introduced RHGYC Representative, **Aryan Sinha**.

Mr. Sinha shared that he will be a junior this Fall at Rochester High School and that he is completing his first year with the Youth Council. He announced that the interview panel has selected the new members for next term and that the names will be presented to Council for approval. He explained that there will be a final meeting and celebration on August 2, 2023, a swearing-in ceremony for new members on August 14, 2023, and an orientation on August 16, 2023. He added that the Youth Council is planning to volunteer at Festival of the Hills on July 26, 2023.

Ms. Mungoli shared that she attended the Oakland County Sheriff's Community Policing and Education event this past Saturday. She remarked that it was a fabulous event that educated residents and helped them with mental health issues. She reminded residents to not leave items in their mailboxes and to lock their vehicles, as there has been recent incidents of theft.

Older Persons' Commission:

Mr. Hetrick explained that the track is under construction and will be open on August 1, 2023. He shared also that the pool will be closed from July 31, 2023 - August 13, 2023 for re-tiling in the locker rooms.

RECOGNITIONS

2023-0355 Proclamation in Recognition of the Rochester High School Girls Competitive Cheer Team

Attachments: [072423 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Proclamation.pdf](#)

Mayor Barnett announced that the Rochester High School Girls Competitive Cheer team won the MHSAA Division One State Championship. He congratulated the team and presented Head Coach Samantha Koehler and Assistant Coaches Judah Washington, Devon Gilbert, and Sara Kempton with a proclamation on behalf of the City.

Coach Samantha Koehler thanked the athletes for their hard work this season and expressed her gratefulness to the community for their support.

Presented.

2023-0316 Proclamation in Recognition of the Stoney Creek High School Varsity Girls Soccer Team

Attachments: [071023 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Proclamation.pdf](#)

Mayor Barnett announced that the Stoney Creek High School Varsity Girls

Soccer Team won the MHSAA Division One State Championship. He congratulated the team and presented Head Coach Bryan Mittelstadt and Assistant Coaches Jacob Nunner and Ron Paradowski with a proclamation on behalf of the City.

***Coach Bryan Mittelstadt** expressed that the Rochester Hills community is viewed as the soccer capital for the State of Michigan and thanked the team, the parents, and the community.*

Presented.

2023-0366 Recognition of Ms. Soccer and Mr. Baseball

Attachments: [072423 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)

***Mayor Barnett** recognized Stoney Creek High School graduated senior, Lilley Bosley, as Michigan's 2023 Ms. Soccer. He presented her Coach, Bryan Mittelstadt, with a street sign in her honor.*

He recognized Adams High School graduated senior, Parker Picot, as Michigan's 2023 Mr. Baseball and presented a street sign in his honor.

Presented.

(Recess 7:24 p.m. to 7:26 p.m.)

PRESENTATIONS

2023-0318 Presentation of Seven-Year Financial Forecast - Fiscal years 2024 - 2030; Joe Snyder, CFO, presenter

Attachments: [072423 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[7-Year Financial Forecast 2024-30.pdf](#)
[SUPPL Presentation.pdf](#)

***Joe Snyder**, Chief Financial Officer, presented the City's Seven-Year Financial Forecast for Fiscal Years 2024 - 2030. He explained that they present a long-term forecast for the following reasons:*

- To better prepare for the future*
- To get ahead of potential issues*
- To be pro-active instead of re-active*
- To assess long-term impacts of decisions and policies*

He stated that the Forecast has the following disclaimers:

- The Financial Forecast is not intended to be a budget or a policy recommendation to City Council*
- The Financial Forecast is intended to be a projection of the City's Revenues, Expenditures, and Fund Balances based upon an updated set of assumptions*

- Includes Governmental Fund Balance Policy
- Includes FY 2023 Proposed 2nd Quarter Budget Amendments

He shared the following revenue assumptions for the Financial Forecast:

- Taxable value will have an increase of 7.2% next year, 4.4% in 2025, and 2.5% in future years
- State-Shared Revenue is tied to the State's sales tax. This is based on the City's population which has increased 7.5% in the census, therefore, the City will receive a greater share of the State-Shared Revenue
- Act 51 Revenues are the revenues for the major roads and local streets and is tied to a flat, per-gallon tax on gasoline. The projections are ultra-conservative and show flat or no increases in revenue.
- Interest Rates have been conservatively projected, however, they are now currently earning 4.6% YTD.

He shared the following revenue expenditures for the Financial Forecast:

- Number of Employees
There are 13 additional positions including ten full-time firefighter/paramedics, one GIS Technician, one Groundskeeper, and one part-time to full-time Parks Administrative Clerk.
- Salary Wage Change
Projected in line with the approved Union contracts
- Health Care
Projecting a conservative 7% increase long-term
- Inflation
Estimating 5% in 2023, 4% in 2024, 3% in 2025, and 2.5% in future years
- Capital Projects
- Number of OCSO Officers
Two additional day-shift Oakland County Sheriff's Deputies
- Oakland County Sheriff's Office Contract
Contract is in place until 2024
Projected annual increases between four and five percent over the next three-year contract

He announced that they are projecting a millage rate decrease next year from the 10.5510 current millage to the 10.4573 proposed millage. He noted that this is due to the Older Persons' Commission not levying their transportation millage with the passage of the new Oakland County Transportation Millage. He further explained that two separate Police mileages will be rolled into one Police millage starting in 2025 and that the Drain Debt Fund will be paid off in 2025.

He stated that the revenue sources for the General Fund are:

- Property Tax 37%
- State-Shared Revenue 27%
- All Other Revenue 36%

He shared that the expenditure sources for the General Fund are:

- Personnel Services 49%
- Transfers-Out 22%
- Other Expenditures 29%

He explained that any funding above 80% is transferred to the Capital Improvement Fund and shared the following 2024 Capital Improvement Fund projects:

- Spencer Park parking lot replacement, court rehab, and pathways
- Avondale Park parking lot replacement
- Oakland County Sheriff's Office substation interior upgrades
- New hook-truck structure at the DPS garage

He noted that in 2028 there is funding earmarked for the Adams Road widening project. He discussed that the Capital Improvement Plan helps to determine which projects receive priority funding, with projects receiving a rating score from seven raters.

He stated that the revenue sources for the Major Road Fund are:

- Act 51 Gasoline Tax 66%
- All Other Revenue 34%

He shared that the expenditure sources for the Major Road Fund are:

- Capital Outlay 54%
- Operating Expenditures 28%
- Transfer-Out 18%

He explained that the major road construction projects that were done last year did reduce the Major Road Fund balance to \$7.6 million and that the Major Road Fund balance is in good shape long-term.

He stated that the revenue sources for the Local Street Fund are:

- Taxes 46%
- Act 51 & Other 34%
- Transfers-In 20%

He shared that the expenditure sources for the Local Street Fund are:

- Capital Outlay 52%
- Operating Expenditures 48%

He discussed that the General Fund transfers into the Local Street Fund 25% of annual expenses, which has helped the Local Street Fund remain in good shape for the long-term.

He stated that the revenue sources for the Fire Operating Fund are:

- Taxes 78%

- 2.7 mileage throughout the Forecast Model*
- All Other Revenues 22%*

He shared that the expenditure sources for the Fire Operating Fund are:

- Personnel 66%*
 - 10 new full-time Firefighter/Paramedics will be stationed at the Fire Department's busiest two stations*
- Other Expenditures 26%*
- Transfers-Out 8%*

He announced that the Fire Operating Fund Balance was slightly above its target of 25% annual expenditures and that it is in excellent shape.

He stated that the revenue sources for the Special Police Fund are:

- Taxes 85%*
- Other Revenue 15%*

He shared that the expenditure sources for the Special Police Fund are:

- Oakland County Sheriff's Office Contract 97%*
- All Other Expenditures 3%*

He explained that the Special Police Fund Balance will be above its 25% target for a few years, leaving the Fund Balance in excellent shape.

He announced that the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding received is \$6,194,980, which will be allocated to the following:

- CDBG Supplement \$150,000*
- Not-For-Profit Assistance \$300,000*
- Drexelgate Parkway & Pathway \$1,813,700*
- Drexelgate Water Main \$180,100*
- Ambulances (x3) \$1,188,000*
- Innovation Hills: Restroom \$575,000*
- Citywide Gateways \$850,000*
- City Hall: HVAC Replacement \$1,012,000*
- Citywide: LED Lighting Upgrades \$126,180*

He discussed that the Governmental Fund Balance Policy prescribes the fund balance reserves for the following City Major Fund:

- General Fund: 70-80% of annual operational expenditures*
- Local Street Fund: 20-25% of annual expenditures (including capital)*
- Fire Operating Fund: 20-25% of annual expenditures*
- Special Police Fund: 20-25% of annual expenditures*

He concluded with the following points:

- Excellent Financial Position as of 12/31/2022*

- Strong Fund Balances*
- Structural Surplus*
- Conservative Projections*
- *Fund Balance Policy*
 - Defines financial parameters*
- *Long-Term Projections*
 - Constantly monitoring and adjusting*
- *Long-Term Capital Planning*
 - Ability to schedule capital projects and leverage City dollars*

President Deel remarked that it is a fantastic Financial Forecast and that he appreciates that we work within our means at the City.

Mr. Hetrick questioned if the Fire Capital Fund Balance projections included the additional ten Firefighters/Paramedics.

Mr. Snyder stated that was correct.

Ms. Mungoli inquired what the difference in dollars is between the increase in taxable value and the reduction in the City's millage rate.

Mr. Snyder explained that the taxable value can go up no more than five percent each year for existing residents and that he would provide more exact numbers at the Budget Meeting on August 21, 2023.

Mr. Walker questioned what the \$850,000 for Citywide Gateways in the ARPA funds received is for.

Mr. Snyder responded that it was for the Gateways implementation and the replacement of all of the Parks signs.

Mayor Barnett remarked that the consistency of the City's Forecasting process is extremely important for City residents and businesses and that the City is in the top two percent of communities in Michigan for financial stability.

Presented.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

2023-0317 FY 2023 2nd Quarter Budget Amendment

Attachments: [072423 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Overview.pdf](#)
[Account Details.pdf](#)
[Public Hearing Notice.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

Joe Snyder, Chief Financial Officer, announced that in total, the 2023 2nd Quarter Budget Amendments propose to:

- Increase total Revenues by \$12.5 million

- Increase total Expenditures by \$6.6 million
- Result in a Fund Balance of \$5.9 million

He provided the following information regarding revenue:

- \$2.4 million is allocated to State shared revenue, the MDOT Flex Fund, the Oakland County Local Street Pilot Program (Local Street Fund), EMS service charges (Fire Fund), Police Liaison Program reimbursement (Police Fund), State grant for Innovation Hills (Facilities Fund), Building permits reimbursement
- \$6.3 million is due to additional investment income
- \$3.8 million is due to transfers-in from other City funds

He provided the following information regarding expenditures:

- \$3.8 million are transfers-out including: the General Fund sending \$1.7 million to the Capital Improvement Fund, the Fire Fund sending \$416,000 to the Fire Capital Fund, and the Capital Improvement Fund sending \$2.1 million to Facilities for Capital projects
- \$1.4 million of Operating Expenditures including: increased funding for the Parks Master Concept Design Plan, pavement legends and stripping in the Major Road Fund, the Police Liaison Program deputies in the Police Fund, brass water system parts in the Water Division, the demolition of the old Borden Office and Fire Training Tower in Facilities, network support services for MIS, and a variety of other City-wide operations
- \$1.2 million of Capital projects including: the 2023 Local Street Rehab Program, the Adams at Clinton River Trail Pedestrian Crossing, the water main replacement at Avon and Drexelgate, the Bloomer Park parking lot, the Bloomer Park Cricket pitch, the Avondale Park Sports complex, Wabash Park, the engineering dollars for the parking lots at Spencer Park and Avondale Park and the Oakland County Sheriff's Office interior upgrades, and the City-wide gateways and park sign replacement

President Deel Opened the Public Hearing at 8:11 p.m. Seeing No Public Comment, President Deel Closed the Public Hearing at 8:12 p.m.

A motion was made by Mungioli, seconded by Blair, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morlan, Mungioli and Walker

Enactment No: RES0191-2023

Whereas, in accordance with the provisions of Public Act 2 of 1968, the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act, and the Charter for the City of Rochester Hills, Chapter III Section 3.7, the City Council may amend the budget during the fiscal year, either on its own initiative or upon recommendation of the Mayor; and

Whereas, the Public Hearing for the proposed FY 2023 2nd Quarter Budget Amendments was noticed on July 6, 2023; and

Whereas, the proposed FY 2023 2nd Quarter Budget Amendments were available for public viewing beginning on July 14, 2023; and

Whereas, at its July 24, 2023 meeting City Council held a Public Hearing on the

proposed FY 2023 2nd Quarter Budget Amendments.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby approves the following FY 2023 fund totals as amended:

TOTAL BUDGET SUMMARY	Current Budget	Change	Amended Budget
101 - General Fund	\$ 30,148,130	\$ 1,506,820	\$ 31,654,950
202 - Major Road Fund	\$ 11,298,030	\$ (1,991,700)	\$ 9,306,330
203 - Local Street Fund	\$ 10,855,910	\$ 201,440	\$ 11,057,350
206 - Fire Department Fund	\$ 13,619,790	\$ 504,010	\$ 14,123,800
207 - Special Police Fund	\$ 10,634,510	\$ 321,900	\$ 10,956,410
208 - Parks Millage Fund	\$ 680,000	\$ 1,070	\$ 681,070
213 - RARA Millage Fund	\$ 761,850	\$ (7,610)	\$ 754,240
214 - Pathway Maintenance Fund	\$ 733,870	\$ 11,290	\$ 745,160
232 - Tree Fund	\$ 169,000	\$ -	\$ 169,000
244 - Drain Maintenance Fund	\$ 1,033,570	\$ (227,760)	\$ 805,810
265 - OPC Millage Fund	\$ 1,700,750	\$ (16,940)	\$ 1,683,810
285 - ARPA Fund	\$ 6,108,460	\$ 101,070	\$ 6,209,530
299 - Green Space Fund	\$ 372,030	\$ -	\$ 372,030
331 - Drain Debt Fund	\$ 222,120	\$ -	\$ 222,120
402 - Fire Capital Fund	\$ 3,197,660	\$ 183,320	\$ 3,380,980
403 - Pathway Construction Fund	\$ 633,750	\$ 165,980	\$ 799,730
420 - Capital Improvement Fund	\$ 7,559,720	\$ 2,194,340	\$ 9,754,060
510 - Sewer Department	\$ 16,870,740	\$ (114,770)	\$ 16,755,970
530 - Water Department	\$ 22,800,880	\$ 485,300	\$ 23,286,180
593 - Water & Sewer Capital Fund	\$ 24,618,450	\$ 525,950	\$ 25,144,400
595 - Water & Sewer Debt Fund	\$ 1,159,370	\$ -	\$ 1,159,370
596 - Solid Waste Fund	\$ 688,640	\$ -	\$ 688,640
631 - Facilities Fund	\$ 23,150,750	\$ 3,509,180	\$ 26,659,930
636 - MIS Fund	\$ 3,612,300	\$ (67,550)	\$ 3,544,750
661 - Fleet Fund	\$ 8,606,370	\$ (407,980)	\$ 8,198,390
677 - Insurance Fund	\$ 454,000	\$ -	\$ 454,000
736 - Retiree Healthcare Trust Fund	\$ 263,330	\$ -	\$ 263,330
752 - Cemetery Perpetual Care Trust Fund	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 5,000
761 - Green Space Perpetual Care Trust Fund	\$ 400,220	\$ (63,660)	\$ 336,560
243 - Brownfield Revolving Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
844 - Brownfield Redevelopment Fund (Legacy)	\$ 327,960	\$ -	\$ 327,960
848 - LDFA Fund	\$ 1,348,910	\$ (218,000)	\$ 1,130,910
870 - RH Museum Foundation Fund	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 100
GRAND TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$ 204,036,170	\$ 6,595,700	\$ 210,631,870

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

2023-0349 Request for Endorsement of the Rochester Hills Gateways and Streetscapes Master Plan

- Attachments:** [072423 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Memo McLeod 071823.pdf](#)
[Gateways and Streetscapes Master Plan.pdf](#)
[MEDC Grant.pdf](#)
[Minutes PC 071823\(Draft\).pdf](#)
[Minutes CC 102422.pdf](#)
[Minutes CC 081522.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)
[SUPPL Gateways questions.pdf](#)

Chris McLeod, Planning Manager, **Ben Weaver**, OHM Advisors, and **Rachel Bush**, OHM Advisors were present.

Mr. McLeod explained that the Rochester Hills Gateways and Streetscapes Master Plan has been a collaborative effort between the Planning Department, Parks & Natural Resources Department, and the Steering Committee. He introduced Ben Weaver and Rachel Bush from OHM Advisors.

Mr. Weaver presented the following information regarding the Project Background and the Gateways Master Plan:

- There is only one gateway sign developed from the 2003 Gateways Master Plan, which is made of composite material and is starting to fade and crack. He added that since the sign was developed, the City has updated their branding and the new, current logo was not in use.

- Master Plan Process:

- Purpose: Communicate the Rochester Hills Brand through gateways and develop unified streetscape standards

- Investigate: Understanding the City

- Character

- Branding Features

- High Traffic volume areas

- Available public right-of-way

- Existing streetscape characteristics

- Evaluate:

- Set project goals

- Finalize gateway locations

- Explore gateway design precedents

- Develop gateway concepts and streetscape standards

- Envision & Finalize:

- Funding and implementation approach

- Detailed landscaping planting plans

- Integration with park signage project and other roundabout projects

- Master Plan Goals:

- To strengthen the sense of place within the City of Rochester Hills through targeted and unique gateway features

- Design features and standards must be realistic and achievable for implementation

- Provide a realistic roadmap for the City to initiate and implement

- Master Plan Opportunities:

- Innovative vision for the community

- Available public right-of-way

- Increased sense of place at community boundaries and key destinations

- Public-private partnerships

- Available funding

- Across the City there are different gateway designs proposed:
 - 2 Primary Gateways
 - Rochester/M-59 & Walton Blvd. by Oakland University
 - 6 Secondary Gateways
 - 2 Tertiary Gateways
 - 23 City Boundary Signs
 - 4 Primary Park Signs
 - Innovation Hills, Borden Park, Spencer Park, & Bloomer Park
 - 6 Secondary Park Signs
 - Roundabout Signs
 - Avon Rd. by Yates Cider Mill & Tienken/Washington/Runyan
- Next Steps:
 - Generation of construction documents - Fall 2023
 - Gateway and park signage fabrication RFP - Winter 2023
 - Gateway and park signage construction - Summer 2024

Ms. Bush presented the following information regarding the Streetscapes Master Plan:

- Master Plan Opportunities
 - Recent road projects demonstrate strong vision
 - Abundant space for streetscape features to create a more comfortable pedestrian experience
 - Standardize materials to create unified streetscapes
- Master Plan Goals
 - Maintain streetscape harmony
 - Ensure that implemented streetscape guidelines support neighborhood and commercial character
 - Provide realistic and achievable streetscape standards for implementation
- Master Plan Scope:
 - Pedestrian Zone Amenities (curb to sidewalk)
 - Hardscape materials
 - Benches and public seating
 - Litter receptacles
 - Bicycle parking
 - Bollard lighting
 - Pedestrian lighting
 - Planters
 - Fencing and retaining walls
 - Active Zone Amenities (curb to curb)
 - Crosswalks
 - Mid-block crossings, pedestrian refuge islands, and trail crossings

- *Street lighting*
- *Barrier elements*
- *Roundabout and median materials*

- *Two Streetscape Palettes (based on City's tagline): Innovate and Nature*
 - *Innovative Palette: modern forms and materials reflect a thriving economic realm and community*
 - *Nature Palette: composite wood accents add warmth and reflect Rochester Hills' natural resources*

- *Future considerations:*
 - *Branded banner signage*
 - *Branded street signage*
 - *EV charging stations*
 - *Bikeshare services*
 - *Public transit stops*

- *Next Steps:*
 - *Update City ordinances to incorporate Streetscape Master Plan*
 - *Coordinate with MDOT and the RCOC to incorporate Streetscape Master Plan in future projects*

Mr. McLeod remarked that this plan shows the unification in the branding and identification of the City. The Gateways signs are more short-term, while the Streetscape Plan is going to be implemented over time.

President Deel expressed that the plan represents the City's values and that the aesthetics are well done. He added that he is incredibly proud to be from this City and that he wants people to know that what they are looking at is Rochester Hills.

Mr. Blair remarked that he wanted to make sure that there are enough staff resources to support this plan.

Mr. McLeod said that the Parks Department has been a part of this planning process and that they understand what the plan involves.

Mr. Walker stated that he is a member of the Gateways committee and that this plan is something everyone should be proud of.

Vice President Bowyer shared that she was amazed that this was done within the budget and appreciates the cohesiveness of the branding within the City.

Mr. Hetrick expressed that he appreciates that it was a long process in order to get a product that reflects the City in a positive way and he questioned if banner signs could be bought by non-profits and be a small revenue source.

Mr. Weaver explained that the banners are not necessarily being proposed right

now, they just wanted to set a standard in case it came up in the future.

Mr. Hetrick questioned if the project is primarily being funded with ARPA funds, how the maintenance of the improvements will be funded, and if the Streetscapes on Drexelgate reflect this plan.

Mr. McLeod stated that the project is funded by ARPA funds and that the Parks Department staff has opined on the plans and there is low maintenance being proposed. He added that the cost of lighting the signs is also low and that they could talk with the Drexelgate team to see if there is any potential for working together.

Ms. Mungoli shared that she had multiple questions that Mr. McLeod answered via email, and she requested if that email could be added to the minutes for the meeting.

President Deel added that it would be a supplemental item to the agenda packet.

Ms. Mungoli expressed that there are some discrepancies as to what the cost of this project is, and questioned how much the project is going to cost.

Mr. Weaver explained that they were given the amounts of \$300,000 from the Planning budget and \$450,000 from the Parks budget, for a total target amount of \$750,000.

Ms. Mungoli discussed that she was concerned about contractually obligating future developments to adhere to this plan without understanding the cost impact and inquired as to what the plan is to implement this into the City's ordinance.

Mr. McLeod stated that step one is to get the plan endorsed and then they will start the implementation process. He added that there are two different routes to go: strict, hard requirements or using the plan as a design guideline. He explained that the implementation is not fully vetted yet and will go through the normal process of public hearings and approval from the Planning Commission and City Council.

Ms. Mungoli questioned if the \$750,000 is just for the signage and why some of the signs are proposed to be located so close to each other.

Mr. McLeod stated the \$750,000 is out-the-door pricing for the gateway signage, with the exception of the boundary signage, as that will be made in-house.

Mr. Weaver shared that the sign locations were determined by the amount of traffic that they might attract. He explained that the sign at M-59 and Rochester Road is the largest one being proposed.

Ms Mungoli inquired whether the mid-walk crossing blocks will be installed and noted that there are a number of areas where the pathways end, which should

be marked with appropriate signage.

Mr. Weaver responded that there are a couple of them in the City but they are not designed well. He noted that they are not proposing where they would go, they are just setting a standard for how they should look when the time comes for them to be installed.

Ms. Mungoli expressed her concerns that this plan might have unintended consequences such as increased labor needs and potential financial burdens for new developments.

Mr. McLeod stated that new developments already have certain requirements that are mandated by the City and this allows those requirements to look a certain way.

Ms. Mungoli remarked that she would like a question on the next community survey that relates to brand awareness.

Ms. Morlan discussed that this is a unique, long-term plan that gives the City the opportunity to unify under a consistent plan. She added that the landscaping is low maintenance, the materials are of a good quality and will last a long time, and that powerlines can be buried when possible.

Mayor Barnett explained that the City is trying to create a good impression of the community and share what our values are. He added that the residents have said that the City is on the right track. He announced that he supports the plan completely and that the City will work hard to bring it under budget.

Vice President Bowyer asked if the plants included in the plan are pollinator plants.

Mr. Weaver stated that some of the plants are pollinator plants, but they do try and limit the placement of pollinator plants by sidewalk areas.

Mr. McLeod expressed his thanks to Sara Roediger, Planning and Economic Development Director, for her hard work on this plan.

A motion was made by Blair, seconded by Walker, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morlan, Mungoli and Walker

Enactment No: RES0192-2023

Resolved, that the City of Rochester Hills City Council hereby endorses the Rochester Hills Gateways and Streetscapes Master Plan.

PUBLIC COMMENT for Items not on the Agenda

CONSENT AGENDA

All matters under Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion, without discussion. If any Council Member or Citizen requests discussion of an item, it will be removed from Consent Agenda for separate discussion.

2023-0365 Approval of Minutes - City Council Regular Meeting - May 8, 2023

Attachments: [CC Min 050823.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

This Matter was Adopted by Resolution on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: RES0193-2023

Resolved, that the Minutes of the Rochester Hills City Council Regular Meeting held on May 8, 2023 be approved as presented/amended.

2023-0347 Request for Purchase Authorization - FIRE: Blanket Purchase Order for Fire Department Uniforms and Accessories in the amount not-to-exceed \$99,500.00 through August 24, 2025; Nye Uniform, Troy, MI

Attachments: [072423 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

This Matter was Adopted by Resolution on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: RES0194-2023

Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby authorizes a Blanket Purchase Order for Fire Department uniforms and accessories to Nye Uniform, Troy, Michigan in the amount not-to-exceed \$99,500.00 through August 24, 2025.

2023-0350 Request for Purchase Authorization - DPS/GAR: Purchase Authorization for Grant Pump Station Pump Replacement in the amount of \$25,450.00; DuBois-Cooper Associates, Inc., Plymouth, MI

Attachments: [072423 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

This Matter was Adopted by Resolution on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: RES0195-2023

Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby authorizes the purchase of a pump replacement for the Grant Pump Station in the amount of \$25,450.00 to DuBois-Cooper Associates, Inc., Plymouth, Michigan.

Further Resolved, that the City's acceptance of the proposal and approval of the award of a contract shall be contingent and conditioned upon the parties' entry into and execution of a written agreement acceptable to the City.

Passed the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Walker, seconded by Blair, including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morlan, Mungioli and Walker

LEGISLATIVE & ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS

President Deel shared that he attended the Pedal the Past event last week, which is a unique and historical event put on every year by the City of Rochester and the City of Rochester Hills.

Ms. Mungioli discussed that the next Rochester/Rochester Hills Sister City meeting is on August 1, 2023 and Captain Yeiser (Oakland County Sheriff's Office) and Chief Rouhib (City of Rochester) will be present to answer questions.

Mayor Barnett provided the following City updates:

- Hosted SEMCOG leaders at Innovation Hills this past week to share how the park was developed
- About 75 students participated in an Innovation Lab, where they worked to solve issues in our community
- Festival of the Hills is in two days
- Crews have been working on the Bloomer Park parking areas, and various pathways in the community
- Dutton Road past Livernois will be closed starting July 24 to November for a bridge replacement project
- Tons of Trucks event is Saturday, July 29, 2023
- Visual Capitalist named the City as one of top 50 safest cities in Michigan
- Livability ranked the City as one of the top 20 best places to live in the U.S.
- Currently working on the new budget that will be presented to City Council in August

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney John Staran had nothing to report.

NOMINATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

2023-0351 Appointment of 2023/2024 Rochester Hills Government Youth Council

Attachments: [072423 Agenda Summary.docx](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

President Deel stated that as his sons are being nominated for appointment to the Rochester Hill Government Youth Council, he would recuse himself from discussion and vote on this item.

Vice President Bowyer explained that the Rochester Hills Government Youth

Council began in 2005 and includes 15 members (two members from each district and seven members at-large). She added that 33 applications were received that met the minimum qualifications, including ten applications from current Youth Council members wishing to be reappointed. She shared that the application/appointment process included the submission of the application packet (application, essay question, and two letters of recommendation) and an interview process (interview team included Deputy Clerk, Sheila Brown, Youth Council Representatives Ryan Barrett, Bella Morris, Caroline Bull, and Maya Vijayakumar, and the Youth Council Liaison Katie Casey). She announced that 23 students participated in the interview process and it was recommended that the following 15 students be appointed to the Rochester Hills Government Youth Council, each for a one-year term beginning on September 1, 2023:

- Caroline Bull - Rochester Adams High School (District 1)
- Tessa Chalmers - Rochester High School (District 2)
- Brennan Deel - Stoney Creek High School (District 4)
- Jackson Deel - Stoney Creek High School (District 4)
- Kisho Giri - Stoney Creek High School (District 4)
- Henry Hall - Rochester Adams High School (District 1)
- Janelle Hayes - Stoney Creek High School (District 4)
- Jackson Otlewski - International Academy (District 4)
- Eliza Pizzuti - Rochester Adams High School (District 2)
- Naiylah Qadri - Rochester High School (District 1)
- Siddh Sheth - Stoney Creek High School (District 2)
- Aryan Sinha - Rochester High School (District 3)
- Maya Vijayakumar - International Academy (District 1)
- Seo-Yun Woo - Stoney Creek High School (District 4)
- Aaron Yoon - Rochester High School (District 3)

A motion was made by Hetrick, seconded by Walker, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 6 - Blair, Bowyer, Hetrick, Morlan, Mungioli and Walker

Abstain 1 - Deel

Enactment No: RES0196-2023

Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby concurs with the recommendation of the Rochester Hills Government Youth Council (RHGYC) Interview Team and appoints the following students to the 2023/2024 term beginning September 1, 2023 and ending August 31, 2024:

NAME	HIGH SCHOOL	COUNCIL DISTRICT
Caroline Bull	Adams High School	1
Tessa Chalmers	Rochester High School	2
Brennan Deel	Stoney Creek High School	4
Jackson Deel	Stoney Creek High School	4
Kishyo Giri	Stoney Creek High School	4
Henry Hall	Adams High School	1
Janelle Hayes	Stoney Creek High School	4
Jackson Otlewski	International Academy	4
Eliza Pizzuti	Adams High School	2

Naiylah Qadri	Rochester High School	1
Siddh Sheth	Stoney Creek High School	2
Aryan Sinha	Rochester High School	3
Maya Vijayakumar	International Academy	1
Seo-Yun Woo	Stoney Creek High School	4
Aaron Yoon	Rochester High School	3

NEW BUSINESS

- 2023-0359** Request for Purchase Authorization - MIS: Purchase Authorization for 320 licenses of Microsoft Office Professional Plus 2021 in the amount of \$129,427.20; Zones, LLC., Auburn, Washington

Attachments: [072423 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Bid Tabulation.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

Rochelle Lyon, Information Systems Director, explained that this is for the upgrade of the Microsoft Office suite of applications from the 2016 version to the most current version. She added that the 2016 version will no longer be supported as of 2025.

Mr. Blair remarked that this is a one-time purchase and there is no monthly fee.

A motion was made by Blair, seconded by Mungioli, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morlan, Mungioli and Walker

Enactment No: RES0197-2023

Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby authorizes the purchase of 320 licenses of Microsoft Office Professional Plus 2021 to Zones, LLC., Auburn, Washington in the amount of \$129,427.20.

Further Resolved, that the City's acceptance of the proposal and approval of the award of a contract shall be contingent and conditioned upon the parties' entry into and execution of a written agreement acceptable to the City.

- 2023-0356** Request for Purchase Authorization - PARKS: Contract/blanket purchase order for the development of park conceptual plans based on the proposed Park Master Plan Project in the amount not-to-exceed \$229,450.00; Niagara Murano, Rochester, MI

Attachments: [072423 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Proposal.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

Ken Elwert, Parks & Natural Resources Director, **Delia Rodi**, Niagara Murano, and **David Barczys**, Niagara Murano were present.

Mr. Elwert shared that the parks that will be a part of the conceptual plans are

Bloomer Park, Spencer Park, Nowicki Park, and the grass pad next to the Brookland's Splash Pad. He added that Niagara Murano is one of the on-call professional architectural firms already on contract with the City.

Ms. Rodi stated they have been in business for over 20 years and they are working with Spalding DeDecker to assist with this project.

Mr. Barczys remarked that they have done work in Rochester Hills previously and that they are looking to unlock the greatest potential in these four parks.

President Deel thanked them for their passion for this project.

Ms. Mungoli questioned why the splash pad was included in this plan and wanted to ensure that signage will not be placed where driveways are located.

Mr. Elwert explained that it is the grass area next to the splash pad and that her statement on signage placement was understood.

Vice President Bowyer expressed that she loves the plan being proposed and that these parks need to be looked at and improved.

A motion was made by Mungoli, seconded by Bowyer, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morlan, Mungoli and Walker

Enactment No: RES0198-2023

Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby authorizes a contract/blanket purchase order for the development of park conceptual plans based on the proposed Park Master Plan Project that will be focused on Bloomer Park, Brooklands Splash Pad Grass Park, Nowicki Park, and Spencer Park to Niagara Murano, Rochester, Michigan in the amount not-to-exceed \$229,450.00 and further authorizes the Mayor to execute an agreement on behalf of the City.

2023-0353 Adoption of City Council Resolution of Intent relative to funding Police Services: Update and Reaffirmation

Attachments: [072423 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

Joe Snyder, Chief Financial Officer, discussed that the City has been operating under a Resolution of Intent from 2012 and that resolution was established based on two police millages which were on the 2012 election ballot. He added that it served to inform residents that any millage rate increase needed by the Special Police Millages would be offset by a corresponding and equal decrease to the General Fund levy. He announced that the resolution presented today was updated by Mr. Staran and himself to maintain the same Resolution of Intent with just the millage rates totals and dates being updated to reflect the recently approval Special Police Millage renewal and combination ballot language.

A motion was made by Mungioli, seconded by Morlan, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morlan, Mungioli and Walker

Enactment No: RES0199-2023

Whereas, at the November 7, 2023 general City election, Rochester Hills voters will have the opportunity to decide whether to support the renewal of a special police millage dedicated to fund and maintain the current level of police services through fiscal year 2034; and

Whereas, the City of Rochester Hills currently funds police services through 2 voter-approved special police millages, totaling 3.4864 mills, that will expire after final levy in 2023 for Fiscal Year 2024. The City forecasts the cost of maintaining the current level of police services will increase in the future and that additional funding through voter-approved special millage will be necessary; and

Whereas, the Rochester Hills City Council wants to clearly state, on the public record, that if the special police millage renewal passes, the City Council intends to offset the millage levy by correspondingly reducing the City's general operating millage levy so that no net tax increase to City taxpayers will result from the renewal of the special police millage.

Therefore, It Is Resolved, the Rochester Hills City Council declares that if the proposed renewal of the special police millage to maintain the current level of police services passes, the City Council intends to fund police services and correspondingly reduce the City's general operating millage levy so that no net tax increase to City taxpayers will result from the approval of the special police millage renewal.

2023-0354 Approval of Fiscal Year 2024 Older Persons' Commission (OPC) Budget

Attachments: [072423 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[2024-2026 Adopted OPC Budget.pdf](#)
[Presentation.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

Joe Snyder, Chief Financial Officer, **Renee Cortright**, Older Persons' Commission, and **Timothy Soave**, Older Persons' Commission were present.

Mr. Snyder shared that the Older Persons' Commission Board met on June 29, 2023, held a public hearing, and approved the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget. He explained that Article 4 Section 2a of the OPC Interlocal Agreement states "annually by August 1 of each calendar year, the Commission shall submit a budget to each of the parties participating in the program, which shall outline the programs to be carried on for the ensuing year, together with the cost projected for these programs." He added that the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget begins on October 1, 2023 and totals \$7,264,500.

Ms. Cortright presented the following information regarding the Older Persons' Commission:

- Total Participation: 178,305

- 41,829 trips for medical appointments, shopping, social, etc.
- 5,083 units of service (senior services)
- 100,003 nutritionally balanced meals (home delivered & congregate)
- 27 participants in the adult day service
- 28,405 hours logged by volunteers
- Capital Improvement Projects: Half of the roof replaced, vegetable gardens, parking lot repairs, lap pool retiling, replumbing locker room showers, walking track resurfaced, walls painted, and building insulation improvements

Mr. Soave presented the following information regarding the Older Persons' Commission Budget:

- FY 2024 Revenue Budget totals \$7,264,500 up \$475,100 (7%) from FY 2023 Amended Budget, reflecting the carry-forward of County Transit Millage funds
- With the receipt of County transit millage funds, the local OPC millage will not be levied in 2024, nor will additional appropriations be required
- Program revenues are projected to return to pre-pandemic levels
- Expenditures are increasing by 6.7% again reflecting use of County Transit Millage funds
- Personnel changes include a 4.0% general wage increase plus creation of a new, part-time Fitness & Aquatics Supervisor, and increased hours for a part-time Cook, due to increased service demands
- Remaining operating expenditures reflect inflationary increases and use of County Transit Millage funds
- Operating revenues will exceed annual operating expenditures by \$748,400, these projected funds will be used for the Capital Improvement Plan
- Capital Projects include completion of roof membrane replacement, parking lot repairs, and various upgrades to the pool heating and electrical systems

President Deel inquired as to how much is collected from the Oakland County Transit Millage.

Mr. Snyder explained it is 0.95 mil, which means the Rochester Hills' portion is over \$4 million.

Ms. Cortright shared that they have expanded their hours from 7pm to 8pm, hired a Director of Transportation, and expanded the locations they are transporting individuals.

Mr. Walker expressed that the Older Persons' Commission is a treasure to our community and that the dollars the facility receives are put to good use.

Mr. Hetrick stated how there are Fund Balance dollars designated for Capital and Fund Balance dollars designated for Budget Stabilization.

A motion was made by Walker, seconded by Hetrick, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morlan, Mungioli and Walker

Enactment No: RES0200-2023

Whereas, at its July 24, 2023 meeting the Rochester Hills City Council acknowledged receipt of the Fiscal Year 2024 Older Persons' Commission Budget; and

Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby approves the Fiscal Year 2024 Older Persons' Commission Budget for in the amount of \$7,264,500.

2023-0213 Request for Purchase Authorization - DPS/ENG: Blanket Purchase Order/Contract for the City's Pavement Legends and Striping Program in the amount not-to-exceed \$751,490.00 for a three-year contract term; P.K. Contracting, Troy, MI

Attachments: [072423 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Bid Tabulation.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

Bill Fritz, Public Services Director, explained that this is an annual program meant to improve roadway safety.

Vice President Bowyer questioned if this included the speed bumps throughout the City.

Mr. Fritz responded that was correct.

A motion was made by Bowyer, seconded by Hetrick, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morlan, Mungoli and Walker

Enactment No: RES0201-2023

Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby authorizes a blanket purchase order/contract for the City's Pavement Legends and Striping Program to P.K. Contracting, Troy, Michigan in the amount not-to-exceed \$751,490.00 for a three (3) year contract term and further authorizes the Mayor to execute an agreement on behalf of the City.

Further Resolved, that the City's acceptance of the proposal and approval of the award of a contract shall be contingent and conditioned upon the parties' entry into and execution of a written agreement acceptable to the City.

2023-0357 Request for Acceptance of Agreement - DPS/ENG: Approval of resolution and contract authorization for the Drexelgate Road Diet and Pathway Installation Project; Michigan Department of Transportation, Lansing, MI

Attachments: [072423 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Contract.pdf](#)
[Bid Letting Results.pdf](#)
[MDOT Resolution Form.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

Bill Fritz, Public Services Director, **Paul Davis**, Deputy Public Services Director/City Engineer, and **Nick Nicita**, Hubbell, Roth, & Clark, were present.

Mr. Davis explained that Nick Nicita has been involved in multiple traffic studies. He added that this is a typical agreement from MDOT, where it defines what the cost expectation of the City is and what MDOT will contribute. He

stated that this is the first Road Diet project in the City and that there were a couple included in the February 2021 Master Transportation Plan that was adopted. He shared that the preliminary engineering design budget was approved by City Council in July 2022 and that a kick-off meeting occurred on September 7, 2022 to start the design. He discussed that Vice President Bowyer wanted to ensure that the needs of the residents on the street were met. He announced that the corridor for the majority of the project is a 60-foot-wide right-of-way and that there was an existing 37-foot pavement section. He explained that in order to fit a pathway, the road diet was necessary and resulted in a proposed, 27-foot-width that eliminated the on-street parking. He stated that a meeting was held in February 2023, in which five of the nine residents attended. He introduced a plan at the meeting that included the removal of the on-street parking and the extension of driveways for any residents who did not have a driveway that was wide enough to accommodate two vehicles in front of the garage. He stated that the residents did not support the plan because they did not want to lose their on-street parking. He shared that a second meeting with six of the nine residents occurred on April 11, 2023 where they introduce an alternative plan that would eliminate on-street parking and create a parking pad in front of the homes. He announced that the alternative plan was still not able to mitigate the residents' concerns on the loss of on-street parking. He shared that they moved the package forward with MDOT and that a bid opening occurred on July 7, 2023. He added that MDOT is ready to award the project, but they are awaiting a decision on the local agreement for City. He explained that if approved, the project will be awarded and construction will begin in late August.

Public Comment:

Mike Sun, 379 Drexelgate Parkway, expressed that there is a practical need for the on-street parking and that it should be preserved. He remarked that he does not feel like their voices have been heard. He explained that traffic data was only collected for one day and did not feel like that was very scientific. He inquired if they could create a compromise to allow residents to park on the street during evenings and weekends.

Michael Crocker, 403 Drexelgate Parkway, stated that they are asking to preserve the on-street parking. He questioned the validity of some of the traffic study numbers quoted because a lot of the traffic diffuses into the subdivision. He expressed that he believes the City is taking more land than they need since the City is requiring 5-feet between the pathway and roadway, while the grant only requires two-feet. He inquired why it is necessary to shrink the road in the name of safety, since the street is already safe.

Max Siba, 373 Drexelgate Parkway, shared that he wants to keep the on-street parking for guests and family members, since it is difficult to fit in his driveway. He explained that he doesn't see why they can't have privileges to park on-street during off-hours. He stated that there are not many people that walk along the street, so he doesn't see the benefit of reducing the road in the name of safety. He added that they were never proposed to have their driveways widened, as mentioned by Paul Davis.

Bhasker Tiwari, 385 Drexelgate Parkway, remarked that he believes it is

necessary to have both the ability to park on-street and the pathways. He stated that there was never an intent by the City to provide a practical resolution to their request for preserving on-street parking and that there is a subjective prejudice for them not allowing it. He explained that when he purchased the property, parking was a factor in his decision and that is now being taken away.

Council Discussion:

President Deel questioned what the traffic volumes are along Drexelgate Parkway and where does it come from.

Mr. Davis discussed that two traffic studies were done on March 8-10, 2016 & April 17-18, 2023 and both of them showed that all three locations speeds are 31 mph or higher, which is the 85th percentile. He stated that the average number of vehicles per day in the 2016 study was around 3,400, and the average number of vehicles per day in the 2023 study was 2,900, which are both under the 4,000-vehicle threshold that is required to have double yellow striping. He added that by narrowing the road, maintaining the 25mph speed limit signs, and maintaining the double yellow striping, on-street parking cannot be accommodated given the 60-foot right-of-way. He shared that they would need to obtain easements on the north side of Drexelgate Parkway to accommodate on-street-parking and that it would require the removal of a lot of mature trees and may require them to build some retaining walls. He added that by narrowing the road, there should be a reduction in the 85th percentile speeds.

President Deel remarked that even with the removal of the double yellow striping, in order for motorists to get around a car that is parked on the street, they would have to move into the lane with oncoming traffic. He questioned why some areas on Drexelgate Parkway had a two-foot greenbelt and this project requires a five-foot greenbelt.

Mr. Davis noted that there are larger vehicles like school buses and garbage trucks that need to be accommodated as well. He further explained that they are required to have ten-foot pathways and a five-foot greenbelt, as required by the grant they are receiving from MDOT.

President Deel inquired if they have an accident report to share for this area.

Mr. Davis announced that in February 2023 they reviewed the accident data with the Traffic Improvement Association and found that between 2019-2021 there was one accident in 2020 and one accident in 2021. He added that the 2020 accident was a vehicle that swerved to avoid a squirrel and collided into a rock and that the 2021 accident was a vehicle that hydroplaned and lost control. He agreed that this is not a dangerous road. He added that there is no pathway currently and that they want to make sure that there is a safe buffer from the roadway. He shared that he has witnessed pedestrians walking along the roadway.

President Deel restated a question from Public Comment as to why Croydon Road near University Hills Elementary School allows for parking on both sides of the street, but Drexelgate Parkway will not.

Mr. Davis explained that in the past there was a group that wanted to construct sidewalks along Croydon Road and the City said the residents would have to come together to construct sidewalks there. He recalled that in the mid-1990s, sidewalk construction was encouraged, but many older neighborhoods don't have sidewalks today. He stated Croydon Road has the same concerns of children having to walk in the street.

President Deel relayed a question from Public Comment regarding the potential for privileges to park on the street during off-hours and weekends.

Mr. Davis discussed that they cannot accommodate on-street parking and they cannot have a part-time exception to that.

Mr. Blair remarked that he supports the project because it allows for pathways to be created and inquired if adjacent streets allow for on-street parking.

Mr. Davis stated there are no parking restrictions on the local roads, but there are some restrictions on Larchwood Drive and Meadowfield Drive. He noted that Drexelgate Parkway does not currently allow for on-street parking, except for this area where the nine homes are located.

Vice President Bowyer explained that Mr. Davis, Mayor Barnett, Ms. Mungioli, and herself met to create a letter that explained the City would be willing to pay for the parking pads in front of the nine homes. She inquired if the letter was ever mailed out to the nine residents.

Mr. Davis stated that the letter was not sent to the residents, however, they did offer the parking pad to the residents at the April 11th meeting and it did not seem as though the residents were receptive to this plan. He added that if a resident were to change their minds and wanted consideration for a parking pad, the City would be open to that.

Vice President Bowyer questioned how long the City would be open to allowing residents to change their mind if they wanted a parking pad.

Mr. Davis stated that they would be open to it until the construction is complete in November.

Vice President Bowyer reiterated that since it is being funded by a TAP Grant, the width of the path is not able to change. She shared that at the beginning of the project she could see why the City would move forward after a letter is sent to the residents offering construction of a parking pad, but that letter was never sent. She explained that she cannot support moving forward with this project because the narrowing of the road will likely increase the amount of accidents. She expressed that she hoped there would have been a solution where the pathways could have been implemented and the roadway left as it is. She added that people will likely still park on the street, causing a hazard in the roadway.

Mr. Hetrick shared that he uses Drexelgate Parkway for running and walking his dog, so the proposal of a roadway diet with an added pathway makes sense.

He questioned if widening the driveways for some of the residents was offered and if those offers still stand.

***Mr. Davis** stated that at the February 7th meeting, it was presented to the residents with narrow driveways that they could have their driveway widened at no cost. He explained that in order for those offers to continue, they would need permission from the individual property owners, but none of the property owners have taken up the offer to-date.*

***Mr. Hetrick** added that the safety of the road is paramount, and the road diet would reduce the speeds on the road.*

***Mr. Davis** remarked that people drive at speeds that they feel comfortable with, so the current, wider roadway causes drivers to navigate at higher speeds. He explained that he understands that the removal of the on-street parking is taking something away from the current residents. He added that when these homes were first constructed, there was a striped median in the roadway and there was no on-street parking. He continued that the Council in the 1990's voted to remove that striped median and create the on-street parking.*

***Ms. Morlan** inquired when the deadline for people to opt to have their driveways widened would be and how many cars the proposed parking pads could hold.*

***Mr. Davis** responded that they would like to know around the end of September in order to have construction completed by the targeted date of mid-November. He stated that the parking pads would accommodate one car.*

***Ms. Morlan** questioned how the nine residents were notified of their options for a widened driveway or a parking pad.*

***Mr. Davis** explained that a letter was sent to all residents informing them of the meeting on April 11 to discuss parking options, it did not specify in the letter the widening of driveways or the installation of parking pads.*

***Ms. Morlan** inquired how much it would cost to install the sidewalk alone and how much the total cost of the project is for the pathways and roadway diet.*

***Mr. Davis** shared that there are differences between pathways and sidewalks. He stated that sidewalks by ordinance are 5-foot wide and are maintained by the adjacent property owner. He added that pathways are typically 8-foot wide and are owned and maintained by the City. He explained that in the 2022 Capital Improvement Program, 5100 feet of pathway construction was proposed on Drexelgate Parkway for a cost of \$1.67 million. He shared that the low bid for the total cost of the project came in at \$1.535 million.*

***Ms. Morlan** questioned whether people were generally staying within five miles per hour of the posted speed limit on Drexelgate Parkway.*

***Mr. Davis** explained that in general, the posted speed for the roadway should be the 85th percentile for what the actual driving speeds are. He stated that the posted speed limit currently is 25 miles per hour and the 85th percentile for*

actual driving speeds are around 31 miles per hour. He added that they have looked into adding speed humps to lower the speeds on Drexelgate Parkway.

Ms. Morlan expressed that it is important to give each of the nine residents the option to widen their driveway or install a parking pad, and she believes the City has not done their due diligence in doing that. She announced that she will be voting no for this project because the nine residents did not receive adequate communication outlining these options.

Mr. Walker inquired if the nine residents have quantified the number of cars they would like to be able to park on the street.

Mr. Davis stated that an exact number has not been quantified and that the residents would not concede to anything less than available on-street parking.

Mr. Walker remarked that some residents are already able to accommodate up to six vehicles due to wide driveways and circular driveways, which has led him to question if the City is obligated to provide additional on-street parking. He expressed that he is perplexed why the nine residents would need the additional parking. He added that the adjoining roads are not far away to park on-street. He questioned if any of the residents will see a change in their front yard easements.

Mr. Davis stated that they would see a change in the front yard easement if the residents choose to accept the offer of the City installing a parking pad. He expressed that he agreed with Mr. Walker and that this is a unique and unusual situation where a major City road is running through a residential area. He shared a graphic that depicted the roadways in the City that restrict on-street parking.

Mr. Walker explained that Drexelgate Parkway interconnects many large neighborhoods that are comprised of over 1,000 single-family residences. He added that we should be focusing on the benefits for the 1,000 residences as a whole rather than just these nine residences and that he would be supporting this project.

Mr. Davis stated that he agreed.

Ms. Mungoli questioned the specifics of what exactly is being voted on because the resolution provided in the agenda packet did not outline any financial obligations for the City. She added that she wants to make sure the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) cannot provide different cost calculations at a later date.

Mr. Davis shared that the vote would be to support the MDOT contract, which does provide a financial breakdown of the project. He explained that the MDOT contract was based on the engineer's estimate which was approximately \$1.9 million and that the actual bid came in at \$1.535 million.

Ms. Mungoli questioned if any projects have come in under budget this year.

Mr. Fritz stated that they have had some projects that have come in under budget. He added that in 2022 they had only one project out of 13 that came in over budget.

Mr. Davis shared that the Watermain Project under Drexelgate Parkway and the Asphalt Project both are examples of some projects that came in under budget.

Ms. Mungoli questioned if there will be any impact to the traffic lights at either end of the road once the roadway diet is implemented.

Mr. Davis responded there would be no impact to the traffic lights.

Ms. Mungoli shared that she was also anticipating a letter would be sent to the residents to explain their options, which did not happen. She added that she supports a pathway for safety purposes, but this proposed pathway does not match the safety standards of the City. She stated that the data does not support implementing a roadway diet or justifying a 10-foot wide pathway and that she still does not fully understand what dollar amount the contract is for, and that she will not be supporting this project.

Mayor Barnett expressed that this City Council and Administration is focused on safety and that this project will promote a safer roadway. He added that it is a win for the City that some of the cost of this project is covered by a grant and that it is coming under budget. He shared that this is the project he is most excited about because it is needed in the community to increase safety for pedestrians. He remarked that this issue is about safety versus convenience and that this is one of the most densely populated areas in the City. He reiterated that if this project were to move forward, the residents will have the next 60 days to decide if they want to utilize alternative options such as widening of the driveways or parking pads. He added that the City has never authorized this type of an offer in the past where taxpayer funds are used for individual private benefits. He stressed that the pathway needs to be approved by the City Council.

Mr. Hetrick stated that he agrees that a pathway is needed. He questioned how much right-of-way the City will be purchasing in order to construct the pathway.

Mr. Davis shared that this project does not require any right-of-way to be purchased. He added that if the City were to not approve the local agreement, the City would likely not get another TAP grant for a while.

Mr. Hetrick expressed that he is 100 percent in support of this project. He remarked that he would like to move the motion with an added condition that the nine homeowners are given a written opportunity to widen their driveway or add a parking pad by September 15th.

Mr. Staran inquired if the condition applies to all nine homeowners.

Mr. Hetrick confirmed that the condition applies to all nine homeowners.

President Deel commended everyone for their reasonable and thoughtful approaches to this. He remarked that the number one priority for the City is public safety and that public safety is an issue along this stretch of Drexelgate Parkway. He shared that the City staff has conducted two meetings with the residents to address their concerns and they were not required to hold any meetings at all. He stated that no one has a right to on-street parking and that the City is not required to make accommodations if on-street parking is taken away. He expressed that the City has gone above and beyond their responsibilities in this case and has done their due diligence. He added that he believes the only thing that will satisfy the nine residents affected will be if they can maintain their on-street parking. He remarked that he is somewhat concerned about the alternatives the City is offering to the nine residents because it may set a precedence for the future. He expressed that they must also look out for the other residents in this area, rather than just the nine residents affected.

Vice President Bowyer stated that she disagrees and that there is no scientific data given that shows the current road is dangerous.

A motion was made by Hetrick, seconded by Walker, that this matter be Adopted as Amended by Resolution to add the condition: 'that the nine homeowners are provided with written notice for the opportunity to opt for a widen driveway or a parking pad by September 15, 2023'. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 4 - Blair, Deel, Hetrick and Walker

Nay 3 - Bowyer, Morlan and Mungiola

Enactment No: RES0202-2023

Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby authorizes Contract No. 23-5250, Control Section TA63000, Job Number 214202CON by and between the Michigan Department of Transportation and the City of Rochester Hills, Michigan and further authorizes the Mayor to execute the agreement for the Drexelgate Road Diet.

2023-0358

Request for Purchase Authorization - DPS/ENG: Blanket Purchase Order/Contract for construction engineering services for the Drexelgate Road Diet and Pathway Construction Project in the not-to-exceed amount of \$230,791.00; Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc., Bloomfield Hills, MI

Attachments: [072423 Agenda Summary.pdf](#)
[Proposal.pdf](#)
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

Bill Fritz, Public Services Director, **Paul Davis**, Deputy Public Services Director/City Engineer, and **Nick Nicita**, Hubbell, Roth, & Clark, were present.

Mr. Fritz stated that with the passage of the MDOT agreement, he is requesting approval of the engineering services for Hubbell, Roth, & Clark, Inc.

Public Comment:

Mike Sun, 379 Drexelgate Parkway, questioned if there are any preconditions for the widening of the driveways or the installations of the parking pads because

they were previously presented with some preconditions by a member of the Department of Public Services staff. He shared that he has been living on Drexelgate Parkway since 1999, and that it is not a safe road. He added that he supports the pedestrian pathway but believes there is a viable way to construct the pathway and preserve the on-street parking. He remarked that he is unhappy that the nine residents this project affects are being pitted against the other residents in the area.

Michael Crocker, 403 Drexelgate Parkway, shared that he agrees the pedestrians must be out of the roadway, but they are asking to also preserve the on-street parking. He added that the road is safe and that the street should not be narrowed. He expressed that he purchased his home based on the availability of on-street parking. He stated that he would not have a problem with increasing the speed limit to 30 miles per hour and preserving the on-street parking.

Bhasker Tiwari, 385 Drexelgate Parkway, remarked that he agrees with the comments and assessments by Vice President Bowyer. He explained that risk is being added because the narrowing of the road limits the visibility if you have to go around a vehicle. He added that approving this project would cause a lot of trouble.

Council Discussion:

Mr. Davis shared that the only precondition for the widening of the driveways or the installation of the parking pad would be that the residents would have to sign a form allowing them to enter their property for construction.

President Deel asked if the parking pads would be installed in the City's right-of-way.

Mr. Davis responded that the parking pads would be installed in the City's right-of-way.

Ms. Mungoli questioned that if the driveways were widened, would the City have to do property surveys to see if it could be done.

Mr. Davis explained that he did not believe there would be a problem because the driveways would likely not be any wider than the garage.

A motion was made by Mungoli, seconded by Morlan, that this matter be Adopted by Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 7 - Blair, Bowyer, Deel, Hetrick, Morlan, Mungoli and Walker

Enactment No: RES0203-2023

Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby authorizes a blanket purchase order/contract for construction engineering services for the Drexelgate Road Diet and Pathway Construction Project to Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc., Bloomfield Hills, Michigan in a not-to-exceed amount of \$230,791.00 and further authorizes the Mayor to execute an agreement on behalf of the City.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE - Regular Meeting - August 14, 2023 - 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before Council, it was moved by Walker and seconded by Mungioli to adjourn the meeting at 12:07 a.m.

*RYAN DEEL, President
Rochester Hills City Council*

*LEANNE SCOTT, MMC, Clerk
City of Rochester Hills*

*AARON GEER
Administrative Coordinator
City Clerk's Office*

Approved as presented at the (insert date, or dates) Regular City Council Meeting.