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PRESS RELEASE

Waterford Township Commits \$1 Million to Subdivision Roads

Waterford Twp, MI – May 10, 2022 – Waterford Township residents looking to improve their subdivision roads may get some financial reprieve following a decision by the Township Board to commit \$1 million in contributions to the repaving process.

At their May 9 meeting, the Waterford Township Board of Trustees designated \$1 million from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for up to 10% contributions to Special Assessment District (SAD) road repaving projects in the community.

As Spring has arrived and potholes are more prevalent, many residents are learning that the only way to have public subdivision roads repaved by the Road Commission of Oakland County is through the SAD process. Funding received by the RCOC to maintain roads comes from a portion of Michigan fuel tax and vehicle registration and is historically not adequate to meet all construction needs on Oakland County's 2,700 miles of roads. Consequently, the SAD process in which residents with abutting frontage on subdivision streets are assessed for repaving is the best option to accomplish repaving.

“The Township Board knows how important drivability is on our subdivision streets,” said Gary Wall, Waterford Township Supervisor. “The majority of the calls and emails we receive this time of year are with questions about how to get residential roads fixed. Waterford doesn't have dedicated tax revenue or the authority to repave public roads, but designating these funds to help offset some of the costs associated with repaving the roads in subdivisions is a benefit to the safety, health, and welfare of the whole community.”

Residents may apply for a funding contribution from the Township to their SAD once they have received from RCOC a cost estimate and preliminary construction plans. The first step in the process is for one or two residents on a street to obtain and circulate a petition for Expression of Interest from the Subdivision Improvement and Development Division of the RCOC at 248-645-2000 x2270. Once a majority of residents sign the Expression of Interest petition, costs can be determined, and residents have the option to move forward with the project through the remainder of the SAD process.

“It's important to understand the ARPA funding we are using for these contributions are limited in both the amount and the time period we can use them,” said Wall. “We have set aside \$1

With us there are no boundaries

million on a first-come, first-served basis and all ARPA funds have to be committed by the end of 2024, and used by the end of 2026. The SAD process can take 16 to 24 months, so the time to act is now.”

For more information about the SAD process, visit www.rcocweb.org under “Residents/Common Questions”. Further information regarding Waterford Township’s contribution can be found at www.waterfordmi.gov/roads.

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