



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
Donni
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
Steele
3. The cosponsoring representatives' names. All cosponsors must be listed. If none, please type 'n/a.' A signed letter from the sponsor approving the co-sponsorship and a signed letter from the member wishing to co-sponsor are required. Attach letters at question #9 below.  
N/A
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
Orion Township
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
2323 Joslyn Rd. Lake Orion, MI 48360
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:  
3800 S. Baldwin Road, Lake Orion, MI 48359
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:  
Rep. Donni Steele, District 54
8. Purpose of the legislatively directed spending item. Please include how it provides a public benefit and why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding. Please also demonstrate that the item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution.  
The purpose of the Orion Township Community Recreation Center Redesign Project is to offer a wider variety of community-centered programming and services, to reduce social isolation, offer transportation services to those in need, increase physical activity, and expand health and wellness opportunities among all age groups.

Utilizing feedback from community and park surveys conducted over the past decade, an indoor recreation center has been identified as a top amenity desired by residents. The

lack of public recreation centers within 15 miles of Orion Township further limits access to indoor community services. In Fall 2023, the Township seized the opportunity to purchase a private athletic club that fell into receivership, aiming to create a cost-effective community recreation center serving Orion Township and the surrounding area. Originally built in 2006 as a private athletic club, the facility requires investments in the roof, mechanical systems, façade, and parking lot. Additionally, a redesign is needed to transform it into a public community center. The Township envisions this center as a space where all community members—regardless of age, income, or ability—can socialize, participate in activities, access information, and seek support services, all within reach of existing transportation options.

The community recreation center will primarily serve Orion Township and nearby communities, where public recreation centers are scarce. This area includes over 250,000 households across Orion Township, Oxford Township, Independence Township, Waterford Township, Auburn Hills, and Pontiac. Within a 10-mile radius, key beneficiaries include 91,490 seniors and children, 26,399 households with disabilities, and 7,770 single female householders with children under 18. The redesigned facility will offer both free and paid services, including a senior services wing, a teen center, youth and therapeutic services, a Health and Wellness Center in partnership with Henry Ford Health Systems, library outreach, fitness facilities, gym courts, an indoor walking track, pools, childcare, a Meals on Wheels distribution center, and a location to share congregate meals.

To ensure a cost-effective and strategic approach to renovations, the Township contracted with TMP Architects to conduct a Facility Redesign Study, completed in July 2024. This study provided an operational plan, budget, site analysis, conceptual designs, engineering system narratives, and cost estimates. Additionally, before purchasing the facility, the Township's construction manager and engineer conducted an assessment, identifying urgent capital improvements, including the roof, mechanical systems, and parking lot. Immediate actions are underway, utilizing the expertise of the Township's professional construction manager. The Township is committed to ensuring that the facility remains accessible and beneficial to all community members while addressing long-term sustainability and operational efficiency.

#### Estimated Cost for the Community Center Renovation:

Senior and Babysitting, Administrative offices, 2nd Floor Multi-Purpose Rooms:  
\$2,845,500

Deferred Maintenance: \$3,265,000

Lobby and Main Entry Renovation: \$1,961,500

Restroom Core, Teen, and Meeting Room: \$1,434,000

Woman's & Family Locker Rooms: \$1,453,000

Men's Locker Room Renovation: \$583,000

Exterior & Facade Improvements: \$578,500

Preliminary Grand Construction Total: \$12,120,500

Orion Township is requesting \$3,000,000. This funding will cover the cost of the Restroom Core off the main lobby, Teen Center, Large Meeting Room, and Woman's

and Family Locker Rooms.

1. Restroom Core, Teen Room, and Meeting Room (\$1,434,000):

a. Restroom Core: Enhancing accessibility and comfort with modern facilities that cater to diverse community needs.

b. Teen Room: Creating a vibrant space equipped with state-of-the-art technology and versatile furniture to foster creativity and community engagement among our youth.

c. Meeting Room

9. Attach documents here if needed:

Attachments added to the end of this file.

10. The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item.

3000000

11. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply.

["Local"]

12. Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item:

Local unit government

13. For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?

Not applicable

14. For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?

Not applicable

15. For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?

Not applicable

16. For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'

N/A

17. "I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item."

Yes, this is correct

18. Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:

3/2025 – 12/2027

19. "I hereby certify that all information provided in this request is true and accurate."

Yes