

MEMORANDUM



TO: Lawton Village Council
FROM: Brittany Rathbun, Village Clerk
DATE: 06/09/2026
SUBJECT: Public Participation Plan Annual Status Update

Background

On March 10, 2026, the Village council adopted a Public Participation Plan of the Village of Lawton. This plan was a requirement of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation's (MEDC) Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC).

Village of Lawton Public Participation Plan: <chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcgiclfefindmkaj/https://www.lawtonmi.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Village-of-Lawton-Public-Participation-Plan.pdf>

Public Involvement Strategies

The following traditional public involvement strategies were used:

- Village Council Meetings
- Planning Commission Meetings
- DDA Meetings
- Person to Person Communications
- Public Service Announcements

In addition to the traditional methods used by the Village of Lawton to get citizens involved in the decision-making processes that will shape the future of the community, the following non-traditional methods will also be used to reach out to citizens of the community:

- Community Office Hours
- Monthly Newsletter
- Social Media
- Zoning Administrator/Village Manager Meetings on an as needed basis
- IRIS Mass Communication System
- Welcome Packets for New Residents
- Agenda and Newsletter Digital Subscription Options

Status Update

This memorandum serves to highlight several public engagement activities from the last year that were intended to go above and beyond what is required by state and local regulations and to align with the goals set forth in the Public Participation Plan.

During Fiscal Year 2025-2026, the Village of Lawton engaged the public via:

- 06 IRIS System Announcements
- 16 Village Council Meetings
- 11 DDA Meetings
- 08 Planning Commission Meetings
- 08 Public Hearings
- 03 New Business Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies
- 01 Elementary School Field Trip Tours of the Village Offices and Police Department
- 01 Elementary School Field Trip Tours of the Water Treatment Plant
- 03 Police Ride Alongs with Red Watch Productions, resulting in a 30 Minute Production of “The Shift”, outlining police work in a local sense in attempt to help inform citizens on what officers do daily.
- 50 Facebook Posts and 1,049 Social Media Engagements by Village Office. The primary Village Facebook account reached 2,302 people with 10,475-page visits
- 351 DDA Social Media Engagements
- 1,137 Lawton Farmers Market Social Media Engagements
- 01 Police News interview with Wood TV in regards to Police Training Grounds
- 12 Newsletters
- 01 Utility Bill Notices for Consumer Confidence Water Quality Reports Placed on Village Website.