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FROM THE OFFICE OF MAYOR MAUREEN MILLER BROSINAN –

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Communities team up to try to cut water costs

Livonia, Westland, Canton Township and Northville Township are working together to try to reduce water bills by considering the creation of a regional water authority.

Combined, the four communities purchase more than \$34 million a year in water from the Great Lakes Water Authority.

It is projected that purchasing water through establishing a Western Wayne Regional Water Authority could lower water rates as soon as July 1, 2021. Greater savings could be seen in future years through capital investments, such as constructing water storage tanks.

This first step follows several months of discussion among the four municipalities.

“Our communities have worked together before. We are confident this will be another positive collaboration that can save money for our communities, while continuing to provide safe, pure water,” said Livonia Mayor Maureen Miller Brosnan.

Preliminary talks among the four communities shaped an initial agreement that each community has approved. That memorandum of understanding establishes a four-month study by engineering, legal and financial experts to assess the concept.

“Westland is proud to be a partner in this innovative regional approach to leverage the combined purchasing power of our four communities to potentially lower the cost of delivering clean water to our residents and business owners,” said Westland Mayor William R. Wild.

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Each community has dedicated funding for this first stage of the evaluation, with Livonia serving as the fiduciary. Once the study is complete, the communities will report out on the anticipated savings of creating a Western Wayne County Water Authority.

“In Canton, we are very excited to get this study going to confirm the potential benefits of a regional water buy for all of our communities,” said Supervisor Pat Williams of Canton Township. “This water-buying consortium is a great idea for our region. I feel strongly the timing is perfect to get the study underway.”

Northville Township Supervisor Robert Nix said the community values its working relationships with Canton, Westland and Livonia. “I am confident that the study to be conducted by engineers, lawyers and finance experts will confirm that the creation of a joint Water Authority will provide tremendous long-term benefits to our communities,” he said.

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