

OVERVIEW

The Village of Lake Orion is a Michigan home rule village that operates under the council/manager form of government. The village government derives its powers from the **Michigan Constitution**, the **Michigan General Law Village Act**, the **Michigan Home Rule Village Act** and the **Charter of the Village of Lake Orion**. The current village charter and its later amendments were approved by the citizens of the village in 1967 and after.

In a council/manager form of government, the elected village council acts as the legislative and policymaking body of the village responsible for adopting **village ordinances** (local laws), rules, regulations, and policies for the health, safety, and welfare of the community and for the overall operation of the village government. The Village Manager is the Chief Administrative Officer of the village government, appointed by the village council pursuant to the village charter and an **employment agreement**. The Village Manager is responsible for implementing the policies of the council and for the efficient and effective operations of the village in accordance with **Sections 3.7 and 3.8** of the village charter. He prepares the annual municipal budget for council consideration and administers the budget after its adoption in accordance with **Chapter 8** of the village charter. The village's **organizational chart** illustrates the relationship between the village council, Village Manager, departments, and

boards and commissions.

In addition to the duties of the Office of Village Manager, the manager also serves as Zoning Administrator, Purchasing Agent, voting member of the village planning commission, Act 51 Street Administrator, and Title VI Non-Discrimination Compliance Coordinator.

For more information on the council/manager form of government, please take a moment to read ICMA's [Council-Manager Form of Government FAQs](#) brochure.

ABOUT OUR VILLAGE MANAGER

Village Manager Darwin McClary joined the village's management team on November 28, 2022, after having previously served as Lake Orion's Village Manager from April 2013 until February 2017. Darwin grew up in the Lake Orion area and attended Lake Orion and Oxford schools. He possesses more than 30 years of experience as a city and village manager for several Michigan municipalities. Darwin earned a Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree from [Golden Gate University](#) with high honors and received a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in Human Services with a concentration in Public Administration with cum laude honors from [Siena Heights College](#).

Darwin is a proud member of the [International City/County Management Association](#) (ICMA), [Michigan Municipal Executives](#) (MME), and [Michigan Public Employer Labor Relations Association](#) (MPELRA). He believes strongly in personal integrity and professional ethics and adheres strictly to the [ICMA Code of Ethics](#). He also passionately believes in his [Organizational Values for Municipal Excellence](#), principles that were later adopted by the Lake Orion village council in conjunction with the village's mission, vision, values, and goals statements.

Darwin is married to his husband, Steven, and has four sons and one grandson. In his spare time, he enjoys hiking, biking, camping, canoeing/kayaking, swimming, traveling, genealogical research, and ESPECIALLY spending time with his family.

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