



# *City of Detroit*

CITY COUNCIL

**MARY SHEFFIELD**  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
DISTRICT 5

**STATEMENT ON OPPOSING VOTE ON CDBG HUD  
CONSOLIDATED PLAN RESOLUTION AND COMPANION  
ADMINISTERING CONTRACT # 2900808  
Council Member Mary Sheffield, District 5**

As our city continues to move towards eliminating blight, and rebuilding our neighborhoods, it is as important that long time Detroit residents get some of the assistance being offered through the CDBG Home Repair Program.

Given those challenges, while I support the overall goal that this proposal seeks to meet, I cannot support removing funds from the Home Repair Grant Program to fund a loan program, at this time. I want to be clear that I'm not opposed to leveraging public funds to spur private investment; in fact, I strongly encourage it where it will not have an adverse impact on residents. However, with numerous residents seeking this assistance at this time, who have limited financial resources, I disagree with the method proposed to address this problem.

Since taking office in January, I can't express how many residents, often seniors, who are current on their property taxes, with significant structural needs on their properties, have inquired about applying for the Home Repair Grant program. As a result more funds should be added to the grant program, not reduced from it.

Therefore, while I support the overall goal, I can't support the action. Consequently, I cannot support the accompanying contract, #2900808.

