

OCTOBER 2024
CITY OF DETROIT
District 5

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



COUNCIL

Mary

PRESIDENT

SHEFFIELD



“ *Success is, liking yourself, liking what you do, and liking how you do it.* ”

— *Maya Angelou*

ON THE COUNCIL TABLE

RECENT MEMOS

Q4 is here! Here are a few policy items currently under Council review.

PILOT FAST TRACK ORDINANCE

Council was recently introduced to the PILOT Fast Track ordinance, which could be voted on as early as late October. This ordinance aims to speed up the creation of affordable housing in Detroit. PILOT, or "Payment in Lieu of Taxes," allows cities to replace property taxes on affordable housing projects with smaller, fixed payments. This helps developers finance new housing by offering a 15-year tax break, with the option to renew for another 15 years, and reduces approval times from 8-10 months to just 1-2 months.

In order to qualify, developers must commit to offering affordable rents for 15 years, with tax cuts tied to the level of affordability.

LANGUAGE LIAISON REQUEST

We have received feedback from residents facing challenges in accessing full support from our city departments due to language barriers. To enhance service accessibility for all residents, regardless of their language, I have directly requested that the Department of Neighborhoods provide information on the feasibility of adding language liaisons, specifically for Spanish and Arabic.

I also requested information on any ongoing or planned initiatives aimed at assisting our non-English speaking residents. These insights will be helpful as we strive to make our services more inclusive and accessible for all residents.

HART PLAZA RESTROOM CLEANLINESS RESPONSE

We have received the following information in response to our memo requesting information on the Hart Plaza restroom cleanliness.

- The public restrooms are accessible during events and should be consistently monitored and cleaned.
- There are designated individuals responsible for handling complaints regarding restroom and porta john cleanliness during events.
- Guidelines specify that events require one porta john per 100 guests.

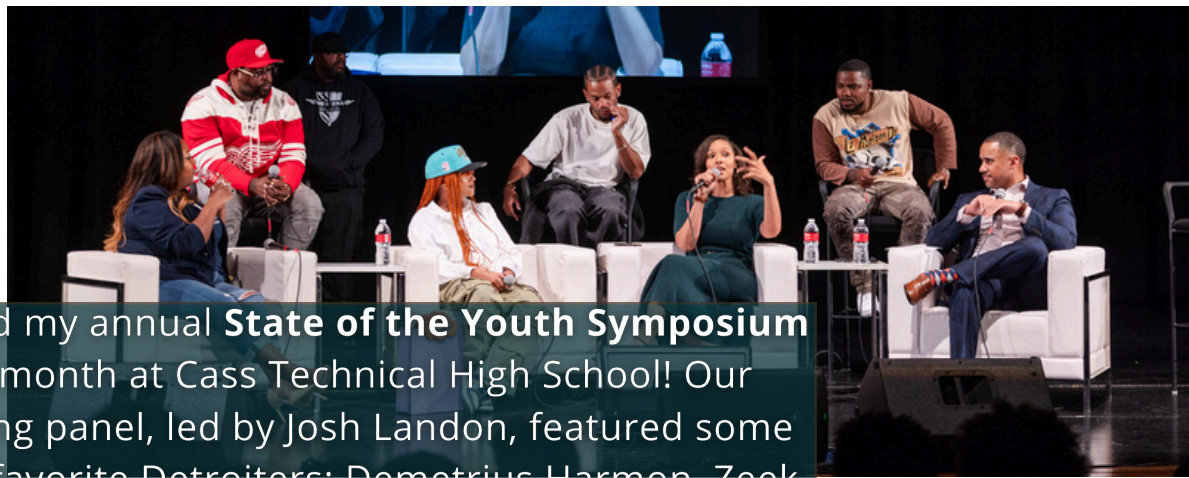
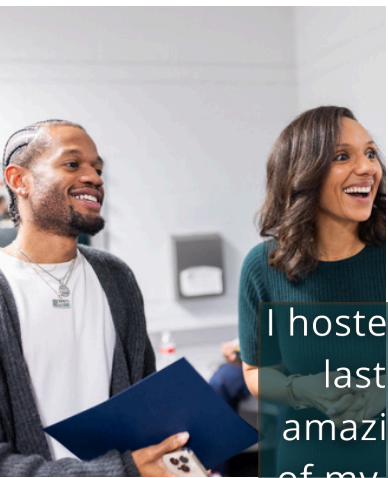
The General Services Department assures that these facilities will receive the attention they need so our residents can safely enjoy events.

REQUEST FOR HOUSING TRUST FUND DATA

I submitted a memo requesting a status update on the implementation of the Affordable Housing Development and Preservation Fund.

The response to my memo revealed that eight projects have been approved by City Council, totaling \$6.4 million and 108 units, while two additional projects are in final underwriting, expected to secure another \$2.8 million for 274 units. As of October 2024, a total of \$9,222,049.00 has been committed to affordable housing projects, with \$3,017,878.00 already expended.

STATE OF THE YOUTH 2024



I hosted my annual **State of the Youth Symposium** last month at Cass Technical High School! Our amazing panel, led by Josh Landon, featured some of my favorite Detroiters: Demetrius Harmon, Zeek Williams, Charity, Kamilia Landrum, HaHa Davis, and our surprise closing guest, Babyface Ray.



The Technicians brought incredible energy and even better questions, sparking powerful discussions on education, the importance of voting and civic engagement, combating bullying, and more. A heartfelt thank you to the panelists who inspired our youth to be bold, committed, and unwavering in pursuing their dreams.



Keeping Up with the President



INDUSTRY STANDARDS BOARD ANNOUNCEMENT

I hosted a press conference to announce the latest progress made by the Industry Standards Board. One of the key updates was the launch of a new **survey**, which is now live for arena workers.

This survey is designed to gather input directly from workers to understand their experiences and identify areas where job quality, working conditions, and overall satisfaction can be improved. Their feedback is essential in helping us shape policies that better support them and ensure fair standards in the industry.

TAKE PART: If you are an arena worker, please visit <https://isbresearch.wayne.edu/> to take the survey, which takes about 10 minutes to complete.

BUS RIDE-ALONG WITH BROTHER CUNNINGHAM

In September, I joined one of our biggest transportation advocates, Mr. Michael Cunningham, for a **DDOT bus ride-along** through my district. We started at the Rosa Parks Transit Center downtown, where we handed out bus passes and connected with residents, even offering one person real-time help with their emergency housing needs.

Experiencing the bus system firsthand, like so many of our residents do daily, gave me valuable insight. I look forward to providing feedback to our departments on how we can improve transportation services and better meet the needs of our community.



Keeping Up with the President

HENRY FORD HEALTH GROUNDBREAKING

I joined Henry Ford Health as they celebrated the groundbreaking of their Detroit Campus Expansion known as **Destination: Grand**. The project will be the single largest healthcare investment in Detroit's history.

The project will feature a new state-of-the-art hospital facility with a 20-story patient tower, an expanded emergency department, and advanced rehabilitation services. Slated to open in 2029, this expansion aims to enhance healthcare accessibility and transform New Center into a vibrant community hub.

“ One of the joys of life is seeing a brighter future over the horizon come closer and closer to view and, ultimately, into fruition.

— Council President Sheffield

EVENING COMMUNITY MEETING

I hosted September's **District 5 Evening Community Meeting**, where I shared Council's progress and had the honor of presenting a Spirit of Detroit Award to Bryan Peckinpaugh for his tireless work with the Water and Sewerage Department. Additional thanks to all the residents who attended the meeting.



Keeping Up with the President

SUGAH PLEASE **GRAND OPENING**

I had the honor of welcoming Sugah Please to Downtown Detroit! Supported by a \$45,000 Motor City Match grant, owner and native Detroiter Wendy Ringo adapted and refreshed her vision for the business while navigating the COVID-19 pandemic. Inspired by her family's Southern roots, Sugah Please offers soulful breakfast and brunch dishes, decadent desserts, craft cocktails, and espresso-based drinks.

The restaurant also plans to partner with other Michigan- and Detroit-based suppliers to expand its menu offerings. With 12 staff members, including 10 Detroit residents, Sugah Please is dedicated to creating jobs and supporting the local economy as part of the Motor City Match initiative.



DREAMTROIT GRAND OPENING

I attended the ribbon-cutting for Dreamtroit, a \$30 million redevelopment project that transformed the historic Lincoln Motor Factory into a vibrant space featuring affordable housing, creative workspaces, and cultural hubs. Developed by Matthew Naimi and Oren Goldenberg, Dreamtroit encompasses 76 residential apartments, five office units, and 38,000 square feet of retail and entertainment space.

The project specifically addresses the pressing need for affordable housing, with 20% of the units set at or below 50% AMI and 50% at or below 80% AMI. This redevelopment exemplifies the potential of adaptive reuse in urban revitalization, bridging the gap between Detroit's storied past and a sustainable future for its diverse communities. With its mix of living, working, and cultural spaces, Dreamtroit is poised to make a lasting impact on the neighborhood and beyond.



SAVE THE DATE

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SHEFFIELD IN PARTNERSHIP WITH WJLB'S COATS FOR KIDS PRESENTS



COVERING *The* COMMUNITY COAT GIVEAWAY

COATS • SCARVES • HATS • GLOVES AND MORE!

W H I L E S U P P L I E S L A S T !



GIVEAWAY STARTS AT 1:00PM

SATURDAY

OCT 26

LEXUS
VELODROME



601 MACK AVE, DETROIT, MI 48201 | FOR MORE INFO PLEASE CALL 313-224-4505

TAKE THE SURVEY

HELP IMPROVE ARENA WORKERS' JOBS!

Did you know that the right now in the city of Detroit there is an Industry Standards Board meeting to make recommendations to improve arena workers' jobs?

Wayne State University is partnering with the Detroit Industry Standards Board for arena workers and the labor unions that represent arena workers to do a research study to find out what arena workers like you want to see change to improve your jobs.

Make your voice heard by taking a 10-minute survey!

All responses are anonymous and confidential.

A public report will be shared in the fall and made available on our website:
ISBResearch.wayne.edu

TAKE THE SURVEY NOW



bit.ly/ArenaWorkersSurvey1



313-444-7772



Sewer Repair Program



The City of Detroit's

CDBG-DR Private Sewer Repair Program

is designed to reduce basement backup and flooding for eligible homeowners and property owners with qualifying tenants, through sewer infrastructure improvements. The program will be made available via grants for homeowners and forgivable loans to property owners renting to eligible tenants.



SCAN ME

Pre-apply today:
bit.ly/CDBG-DR-PSRP

Eligible households may receive the following services:

- Clean and inspect of private lateral sewer line.
- Repair or replace private lateral sewer and install cleanout.
- Install backflow water valve on private lateral sewer.
- Install backflow water valve and sump pump with overflow.
- Disconnect downspout and install extension, where possible to a proper place of disposal.

All applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Households applying must be at or below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) as determined annually by HUD. *Chart below
- Applicants must live in a single-family residential structure (1-4 units).
- Households must be able to demonstrate impact
- (tie-back) from the June 25-26, 2021 flood event.
- The property cannot be in a floodplain.
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate that there is no duplication of benefits.

The property must be in one of the following 22 neighborhoods in the designated most impacted City Council district:

District 4: Cornerstone Village, Morningside, Chandler Park, Fox Creek, Riverbend, West End

District 6: Midwest, Chadsey-Condon, Claytown, North Corktown, Michigan-Martin

District 7: Aviation Sub, Garden View, Plymouth-I96, Plymouth-Hubell, Paveway, We Care Community, Fiskhorn, Joy-Schaefer, Warrendale, Warren Ave Community, Barton-McFarland

| Household Size | Income Limit |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1 Person | \$53,700 |
| 2 People | \$61,400 |
| 3 People | \$69,050 |
| 4 People | \$76,700 |
| 5 People | \$82,850 |
| 6 People | \$89,000 |
| 7 People | \$95,150 |
| 8 People | \$101,250 |

Family sizes in excess of 8 persons are calculated by adding 8% of the four-person income limit for each additional family member. That is, a 9-person limit should be 140% of the 4-person limit, the 10-person limit should be 148%.

The HOME income limit values for large households (9-12 persons) must be rounded up to the nearest \$50. Gross annual income limit is defined as the TOTAL income received by all members of the household (18 years and older) before deductions.

This information is provided by HUD effective 2024.

Tax Debt Relief

**DETROIT HOMEOWNERS
APPLY TO REDUCE TAX DEBT**



HOPE → PAYS



www.detroitmi.gov/hope or call **313-244-0274**

STRUGGLING WITH

back taxes?

Homeowners Property Exemption (HOPE) can exempt you from your current year taxes and make you eligible for financial assistance

STEP 1 Apply for HOPE

STEP 2 If approved, you may be invited to **Pay As You Stay** (PAYS) Plan with Wayne County Treasurer's Office

STEP 3 Detroit Tax Relief Fund (DTRF) pays off your PAYS balance in full

Apply now online at detroitmi.gov/HOPE
or call **313-244-0274**

2024 HOPE Deadline: November 1

Homeowner Benefits



Benefits-Period Homeowner PROGRAM

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- Owned a home prior to 2009
- Owned the home from 2009 until 2016, unless it was sold or lost to foreclosure during that time
- Had a Principal Resident Exemption (PRE) effective during all years of ownership
- Currently live in Detroit

BENEFITS Choose ONE, plus the HR Benefit

ALL participants receive the HR benefit:

City of Detroit Human Resources +10 points added to any City job application score

Choose ONE of the below:

Detroit Land Bank Authority

- Up to 50% discount on Auction or
- Up to 50% discount on BuyBack or
- Up to 50% discount on Side-Lot

Grow Detroit's Young Talent*

Preferential access for 14-24 year-old children and grandchildren of Affected Homeowners

City of Detroit Housing and Revitalization Department

Preferential access for:

- 0% Home Repair Loan or
- Detroit Housing Services or
- Down Payment Assistance* or
- Renew Detroit* or
- Senior Emergency Repair* or
- A Future Housing Assistance Program

Detroit At Work*

Preferential access to:

- D@W job search
- Career services
- Financial counseling services

Assigned special, designated career coach to leverage non-workforce program components

Motor City Match, Small business launcher*

20% increase in maximum financial or TA award, as needed

Any Tax-Abated Development*

Preferential access to purchase or lease

**Resources contingent upon program availability*

AND MORE!! CALL FOR A FULL LIST OF BENEFITS!



HOW TO ENROLL

Call **City of Detroit Housing Resource HelpLine 866-313-2520 option 5**

Program verifies your eligibility, contacts you directly
Qualified homeowners: Choose your benefit by December 2024

detroitmi.gov/homeownerbenefits

Connect With Me

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MARY SHEFFIELD WANTS TO ATTEND YOUR BLOCK CLUB OR COMMUNITY MEETING!

“I want to hear from YOU!”

There is so much happening in the neighborhoods, and I want to hear all about it. Please invite me and my team out to attend your next meeting!



Please visit bit.ly/InviteSheffield to submit your block club information today!

If you have any questions, please email CouncilMemberSheffield@detroitmi.gov or call 313-224-4505.



Detroit Business Spotlight

OLD WESTERN MARKET



The **Old Western Market** is back in Corktown! Recently celebrating its grand opening, this vibrant marketplace offers a selection of local vendors featuring fresh produce, delicious food, and unique products. With a mission to revive the community spirit, it's a perfect spot to explore and support local businesses. Stop by Thursday through Saturday and experience the excitement of this historical revival!



**OLD WESTERN MARKET IS LOCATED AT
2640 MICHIGAN AVE, DETROIT, MI 48216**



STAY CONNECTED

**Stay Engaged.
Stay Informed.
Stay Connected.**

**TEXT MSDET5 TO
468311**

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Events, and much more from
Council President Mary Sheffield

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 [MarySheffieldCityCouncilPresident](https://www.facebook.com/MarySheffieldCityCouncilPresident)

Need assistance?
Call my office at 313-224-4505
or

Email my office at CouncilMemberSheffield@detroitmi.gov

*“To bring about change, you
must not be afraid to take the
first step. We will fail when
we fail to try.”*

— Rosa Parks

