



## City of Detroit

CITY COUNCIL

**MARY SHEFFIELD**  
CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT  
DISTRICT 5

# MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Dr. Hayley W. Murphy, Ex. Director & CEO, Detroit Zoological Society  
**FROM:** Mary Sheffield, President, Detroit City Council  
**DATE:** March 27, 2023  
**RE:** Detroit Zoological Society (DZS), Budget Hearing Questions, Fiscal Year 2023/2024

### SUMMARY:

1. Please provide your annual budget for the 2023-24 fiscal year.
2. As stated on the Detroit Zoo website, DZS has 261 full-time employees and 30 part-time employees. What is the rate of employee turnover at the DZS? Is DZS fully staffed? If not, what have been barriers to filling positions?
3. DZS has 52,000 member households. What do your member benefits entail? Does DZS require member fees? If so, what is DZS doing to assist low-income families who cannot afford to become members?
4. Part of DZS's mission is to inspire your diverse community with engaging, meaningful, memorable experiences and equitable opportunities that encourage appreciation and stewardship of nature. What programs does DZS offer that meets this goal? Please include all future programs that will be put into place.
5. \$570,000 of Non-Departmental General Fund dollars is recommended for Zoo Operations. What do these zoo operations entail? Considering that this allotment is consistent, please provide an analysis that includes previous, current, and future plans that maximize this funding.
6. What new initiatives, if any, does the society have to engage Detroiters and youth around careers at the DZS and in zoology in general?
7. As we continue to transition back to normal, what protocols does DZS have in place to ensure member and public safety?
8. What partnerships does the DZS have to-date that supports the creation of innovative programs and services that contribute to the region's economic vitality?

Please contact Caryn Shannon from my office at [caryn.shannon@detroitmi.gov](mailto:caryn.shannon@detroitmi.gov) if you have any questions.

Cc: Honorable Colleagues  
City Clerk