



City of Detroit

CITY COUNCIL

MARY SHEFFIELD
CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT
DISTRICT 5

MEMORANDUM

TO: Crystal Perkins, Director, General Services Department
James E. White, Chief, Detroit Police Department

FROM: Mary Sheffield, President, Detroit City Council

DATE: June 24, 2024

RE: Request Regarding Park Closings During Annual Ford Fireworks

It has been brought to my attention that for the Annual Ford Fireworks, several Riverfront parks have been closed for public access starting at 2pm. This restricts viewing access for some of our most vulnerable residents, including our seniors and disabled residents. In response to this decision, I am requesting answers to the following questions:

- How long has DPD been closing these parks for the fireworks? How was this decision made?
- Who approves park closures?
- Does DPD has the capacity to avoid park closures for future Fireworks celebrations?

It is my hope that the City can be as accommodating as possible for the residents who may find it difficult to attend the fireworks in Hart Plaza and other heavily trafficked areas. If you have any questions, please contact Yvonne Ragland from my office at yvonne.ragland@detroitmi.gov. Thank you, in advance, for your consideration and response.

Cc: Honorable Colleagues
City Clerk