



City of Detroit  
Detroit City Council  
Council Member Angela Whitfield Calloway  
District 2

## MEMORANDUM

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TO: David Whittaker, LPD Director

THROUGH: Mary Sheffield, Council President

FROM: Angela Whitfield Calloway, Council Member *AWC*  
May 13, 2024

RE: Request for a draft ordinance to ban cannabis advertising on billboards.

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Please draft an ordinance that will ban cannabis advertising on billboards throughout Detroit.

On May 7, 2024, City Council approved a motion to have LPD prepare a report concerning marijuana billboards and other matters. On May 9, 2024, a memorandum concerning the request was directed to LPD. Additional legal research found a recent case on point.

In Cocroft v Graham, Case Number 3 23CV431-MPM-RP, dated January 22, 2024, United States District Court Judge Michael P. Mills of the Northern District of Mississippi, dismissed an action challenging the Mississippi ban on the advertisement of marijuana on billboards. The Court ruled that marijuana possession and sales are still unlawful under federal statutes; therefore, advertisement for the sale of marijuana is not protected commercial speech. Please review this recent case law and draft an ordinance to ban cannabis advertisement of billboards in Detroit. Thank you for your cooperation.

CC: Malik Washington, Liaison  
Graham Anderson, Law Department

Please contact our office if you have any questions or concerns – Peter Rhoades at [peter.rhoades@detroitmi.gov](mailto:peter.rhoades@detroitmi.gov)