



City of Detroit

CITY COUNCIL

MARY SHEFFIELD
CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT
DISTRICT 5

MEMORANDUM

TO: David Whitaker, Director, Legislative Policy Division
FROM: Mary Sheffield, President, Detroit City Council
DATE: September 6, 2024
RE: Presale Home Inspections

In 2014, at the urging of the then BSEED Director, the City of Detroit repealed the mandatory pre-sale inspections of one and two-family dwellings. Presale inspections can provide another level of oversight to protect prospective home buyers.

Please provide a report on Presale Home Inspections in Detroit answering the following:

- Why was the pre-sale inspection ordinance originally repealed?
- Can the City require presale inspections of one and two-family dwellings?
- Does BSEED have the capacity to conduct such inspections?
- What is the anticipated cost to fund a presale inspection program?

Additionally, please provide a comparison of Detroit's presale inspection policy versus other similar municipalities.

Please contact Ari Ruttenberg from my office at ruttenberga@detroitmi.gov if you have any questions.

Cc: Honorable Colleagues
City Clerk