



City of Detroit

COUNCILMAN SCOTT R. BENSON

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** David Bell, Director, Building, Safety Engineering, and Environmental Department (BSEED)  
Gary Brown, Director, Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD)

**FROM:** Hon. Scott Benson, City Council District 3

**CC:** Hon. Gabriela Santiago-Romero, Chair, Public Health & Safety Standing Committee  
Hon. Janice Winfrey, City Clerk  
Malik Washington, Mayor's Liaison

**VIA:** Hon. Council President Mary Sheffield

**DATE:** 7 October 2024

**RE:** PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING AIR AND WATER QUALITY IN THE HARPER AND VANDYKE AREA

During today's Public Health and Safety Standing Committee meeting, a resident called in to express concerns about air and water quality in the Harper and Van Dyke area. Specifically, the resident reported a strong smell of mildew in the air and mentioned that the water had a foul taste. As a direct result I am requesting that BSEED investigate the air quality in the area, particularly focusing on the reported mildew smell. Additionally, I am requesting that DWSD conduct an evaluation of the water quality to address the concerns regarding its taste.

These concerns may have significant public health implications, so I would appreciate a prompt investigation and report back on any findings, along with proposed solutions. Please provide an update on these issues as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact my office at 313-224-1198.

**SRB**