


David Whitaker, Esq.
Director
Irvin Corley, Jr.
Executive Policy Manager
Marcell R. Todd, Jr.
Director, City Planning
Commission
Janese Chapman
Director, Historic Designation
Advisory Board

John Alexander
LaKisha Barclift, Esq.
Paige Blessman
M. Rory Bolger, Ph.D., FAICP
Lisa DiChiera
Eric Fazzini, AICP
Willene Green
Christopher Gulock, AICP
Derrick Headd
Marcel Hurt, Esq.

City of Detroit
CITY COUNCIL
LEGISLATIVE POLICY DIVISION
208 Coleman A. Young Municipal Center
Detroit, Michigan 48226
Phone: (313) 224-4946 Fax: (313) 224-4336

Kimani Jeffrey
Anthony W. L. Johnson
Phillip Keller, Esq.
Edward King
Kelsey Maas
Jamie Murphy
Latawn Oden
Dolores Perales
Analine Powers, Ph.D.
W. Akilah Redmond
Rebecca Savage
Sabrina Shockley
Renee Short
Floyd Stanley
Thomas Stephens, Esq.
Timarie Szwed
Theresa Thomas
Ian Tomashik
Ashley A. Wilson

TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director 
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: November 8, 2024

RE: **RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL STORMWATER AWARENESS DAY**

Council Member Latisha Johnson requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) draft a resolution recognizing National Stormwater Awareness Day.

Please contact us if we can be of any further assistance.

BY COUNCIL MEMBER LATISHA JOHNSON

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL STORMWATER AWARENESS DAY

WHEREAS, Over the last decade, particularly in 2014 and 2021, Detroit has experienced historically large rainstorms causing the flooding of the City's roadways and residents' homes, and these extreme storms are expected to become more frequent with the onset of climate change; and

WHEREAS, Much of Detroit's sewer infrastructure was built over a century ago, and because the City has a combined sewer system for stormwater and waste water, sudden high volumes of stormwater can overburden the system leading to sewer backups into residents' homes and untreated combined sewer overflow (CSO) to be released into nearby waterways; and

WHEREAS, Polluted stormwater runoff discharged into rivers, lakes, streams, and other waterways can result in the death of wildlife, destruction of vital ecosystems, contamination of drinking water resources, and disruption of recreational activity, thereby threatening public health; and

WHEREAS, In recent years, the City has invested heavily in new facilities and infrastructure to treat CSO discharges, but more investment is also needed to support infrastructure projects that include things such as green spaces, green roofs, bioswales, and raingardens that can absorb and slow the flow of rainwater to prevent the sewer system from exceeding its capacity; and

WHEREAS, The City must also continue working toward local and regional shoreline protection efforts to shield properties from the effects of flooding, erosion, and pollution; and

WHEREAS, Population growth, residential and commercial development, and the resulting changes to the natural landscape will only increase concerns about stormwater quality and quantity in the City; and

WHEREAS, The impacts of stormwater cannot be entirely avoided or eliminated, but they can be minimized through careful planning and intentional actions; and

WHEREAS, The control of stormwater quantity and quality is most effectively implemented when public and private organizations understand the related causes and consequences of polluted stormwater runoff and flooding, and the actions they can take to control these; and

WHEREAS, The development and implementation of effective stormwater education and improvement projects will assist the City in its effort to mitigate the negative impacts of stormwater and thereby improve the quality of life for all Detroit residents; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED, The Detroit City Council hereby recognizes November 16th as National Stormwater Awareness Day.