

Janice M. Winfrey
City Clerk

City of Detroit
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Andre P. Gilbert II
Deputy City Clerk

DEPARTMENT PETITION REFERENCE COMMUNICATION

To: The Department or Commission Listed Below

From: Janice M Winfrey, Detroit City Clerk

The following petition is herewith referred to you for report and recommendation to the City Council.

In accordance with that body's directive, kindly return the same with your report in duplicate within four (4) weeks.

Petition No.	2025-043
Name of Petitioner	LGBT Detroit
Description of Petition	Petition request to hold the "Hotter Than July" on July 26, 2025 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM the same day. Event will be located at Palmer Park. Set-up will begin on July 26, 2025 at 7:00 AM and be completed by 9:00 PM the same day. Tear down will begin on July 26, 2025 at 5:00 PM and be completed by 7:00 PM on July 26, 2025.
Type of Petition	Special Events
Submission Date	03/06/25
Concerned Departments	Buildings, Safety Engineering, and Environmental Department (BSEED), Department of Public Works (DPW), Detroit Department of Transportation (DDOT), Detroit Fire Department (DFD), General Services Department (GSD), Media Services Department, Municipal Parking Department, Police Department (DPD)
Petitioner Contact	Jerron Totten 20025 Greenfield Rd Detroit, MI 48235 P: (313) 397-2127 jerrontotten@lgbtdetroit.org

2 Woodward Ave. Coleman A. Young Municipal Center Rm. 200, Detroit, MI 48226

(313) 224 - 3260 | Fax: (313) 224 - 1466

City of Detroit Special Events Application Authorizations

AUTHORIZATION & AFFIDAVIT OF APPLICANT

I certify that the information contained in the foregoing application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief that I have read, understood and agreed to abide by the rules and regulations governing the proposed special event, and I understand that this application is made subject to the rules and regulations established by the Mayor or the Mayor's designee. Applicant agrees to comply with all other requirements of the City, County, State, and Federal Government and any other applicable entity, which may pertain to special events. I further agree to abide by these rules, and further certify that I agree to be financially responsible for any costs and fees that may be incurred by or on behalf of the event to the City of Detroit.

Applicant Signature:



Date:

01/13/2025

NOTE: Completion of this form does not constitute approval of your event. Pending review by the Special Events Management Team, you will be notified of any requirements, fees, and/or restrictions pertaining to your event.

HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFICATION

The Applicant agrees to indemnify and hold the City of Detroit (which includes its agencies, officers, elected officials, appointed officials and employees) harmless from and against injury, loss, damage or liability (or any claims in respect of the foregoing including claims for personal injury and death, damage to property, and reasonable outside attorney's fees) arising from activities associated with this permit, except to the extent attributable to the gross negligence or intentional act or omission of the City.

Applicant affirms that Applicant has read and understands the Hold Harmless and Indemnification provision and agrees to the terms expressed therein.

Event Name:

HOTTER THAN JULY

Event Date:

July 22-27,
2024

Event Organizer:

A. NZERE KWARENO

Applicant Signature:



Date:

01/13/2025

Hotter Than July is the world's longest-running "Black LGBT + Pride" celebration. The celebration provides LGBT and allied residents and guests with exciting, entertaining, and educational experiences in select spaces. Created in 1995, Hotter Than July evolved into a social justice rally that captured and articulated culture, spirituality, and education in its programming.

Our goal remains the same: to enrich the quality of life for all Black, Brown, and Middle Eastern lesbian, gay, bi, and transgender persons ... especially youth and family. Hotter Than July increases visibility and encourages health, wellness, empowerment, and identity. Lastly, Hotter Than July provides an opportunity to collaborate on issues, develop strong partnerships, and ensure longevity.

www.hotterthanjuly.org

**Hotter Than July
Palmer Park Picnic
Saturday, July 26, 2025
SITE PLAN**



- EVENT OUTCOMES**
- Prioritized audience is LGBT+ persons
 - The event is centered around Lake St. Francis
 - The core activities are taken place at the intersection of Merrill Plaisance & Second Ave in the parking lot.
 - Event officially begins at 11:00 am
 - Merchant Row tents are 10'x10'
 - The Sound Stage is approx 12' x 16'
 - The Rain Tent is approx 12' x 16'
 - Four porta johns will be onsite

Community Impact Plan for the Hotter Than July Palmer Park Picnic

Objective: To create a vibrant, inclusive, and impactful event that celebrates the LGBTQ+ community while addressing critical needs through access to health screenings, care services, housing assistance, food security, and entertainment.

Event Components

1. Free Health Screenings and Access to Care

Goal: Promote health equity by providing accessible, free medical services.

- **Health Screening Booths:**
 - HIV testing and counseling (in partnership with local clinics and health organizations).
 - Blood pressure, glucose, and cholesterol checks.
 - Mental health resources, including brief on-site counseling and stress management tools.
- **Partnerships:**
 - Collaborate with local health systems, LGBTQ+ health providers, and mobile clinics.
 - Invite organizations like Affirmations, Henry Ford Health, and Planned Parenthood.
- **On-Site Follow-Up:**
 - Provide immediate referrals to LGBTQ+-affirming healthcare providers.
 - Distribute informational packets on PrEP, Mpox, and other health initiatives.

2. Housing Assistance Services

Goal: Connect community members with housing resources to ensure safe, stable living conditions.

- **Resource Booths:**
 - Representatives from local housing authorities and non-profits (e.g., Ruth Ellis Center, Detroit Housing Commission) to offer immediate assistance.

- Information on housing subsidies, emergency shelters, and long-term supportive housing programs.
- **Workshops:**
 - Renters' rights and advocacy.
 - How to navigate the housing application process.

3. Access to Food Services

Goal: Combat food insecurity by providing nutritious meals and connecting individuals to long-term food resources.

- **Food Distribution:**
 - Host a "free pantry" station with fresh produce, non-perishables, and hygiene products.
 - Partner with local food banks (e.g., Gleaners, Forgotten Harvest) to supply goods.
- **Community Meal:**
 - Offer a free, inclusive picnic meal with dietary accommodations (vegan, gluten-free, etc.).
 - Feature local LGBTQ+-owned food vendors to support small businesses.
- **Resource Guides:**
 - Provide attendees with information on food assistance programs like SNAP, WIC, and local food pantries.

4. Entertainment and Celebration

Goal: Celebrate community and culture while fostering a sense of belonging.

- **Live Performances:**
 - Showcase LGBTQ+ artists, drag performers, and spoken word poets.
 - Include a diverse lineup representing Black and Latinx voices.
- **DJ and Dance Area:**
 - Create a high-energy space for dancing and connecting.
- **Kids' Zone:**

- Offer family-friendly activities like face painting, storytelling, and games.

5. Additional Community Resources

Goal: Ensure attendees leave empowered with tools to thrive.

- **Job and Career Services:**
 - Resume-building workshops and on-site consultations.
 - Connections to LGBTQ+-friendly employers.
- **Legal Aid:**
 - Free consultations on name changes, discrimination cases, and other legal matters.
 - Representation from Equality Michigan and similar organizations.
- **Civic Engagement:**
 - Voter registration and information on upcoming elections.

Implementation Timeline

- **6 Months Before Event:**
 - Secure partnerships with health providers, housing organizations, and food banks.
 - Begin outreach to performers and vendors.
- **3 Months Before Event:**
 - Launch community awareness campaign to recruit volunteers and publicize the event.
 - Confirm on-site logistics (permits, layout, safety protocols).
- **1 Month Before Event:**
 - Finalize service provider commitments and allocate spaces.
 - Distribute promotional materials through social media, local organizations, and community hubs.
- **Event Day:**
 - Set up resource stations and stages early.

- Conduct team briefings to ensure smooth operations.
- Monitor and support all activities to ensure inclusivity and accessibility.

Measuring Community Impact

- **Metrics to Track:**
 - Number of health screenings conducted and referrals made.
 - Amount of food distributed and individuals served.
 - Number of housing assistance inquiries and successful follow-ups.
 - Event attendance and demographic reach.
 - Participant feedback via surveys.
- **Post-Event Reporting:**
 - Share outcomes with partners, volunteers, and the community.
 - Highlight successes and areas for improvement to inform future events.

Conclusion: The Hotter Than July Palmer Park Picnic will be a transformative event that not only celebrates the LGBTQ+ community but also addresses pressing needs with tangible, accessible resources. By combining entertainment with impactful services, this event ensures a meaningful and memorable experience for all attendees.

Pre-Cleanup Preparation (Before the Event)

1. **Assign Cleanup Team Leads:**
 - Designate 3-4 volunteer leaders responsible for managing specific areas (e.g., picnic area, parking lot, walking trails).
2. **Gather Supplies:**
 - Trash bags (regular and recycling-specific).
 - Gloves (reusable or disposable).
 - Rakes, brooms, and dustpans.
 - First aid kits.
 - Hydration supplies (water bottles).
 - Clipboards for tracking tasks.
3. **Volunteer Recruitment:**
 - Recruit and register volunteers ahead of time.
 - Assign roles based on availability and physical capacity.

Cleanup Plan

Hour 1: Initial Sweep and Sorting

- **Task:** Assign volunteers to designated zones:
 1. **Picnic Area:** Collect leftover food, disposables, and debris. Separate recyclables (e.g., cans, bottles).
 2. **Parking Lot:** Gather litter and clear pathways.
 3. **Trails and Green Spaces:** Focus on small litter and restore natural areas.
- **Materials:** Provide trash bags and recycling bags for each zone.
- **Team Leads:** Oversee bag collection and monitor volunteer safety.

Hour 2: Detailed Cleaning and Load Consolidation

- **Task:**
 4. Rake and sweep any remaining debris (e.g., bottle caps, napkins, decorations).
 5. Replace or remove filled trash and recycling bags from designated drop-off points.
 6. Sort recyclables from general trash for proper disposal.
 7. Remove leftover event signage and decorations.
- **Team Leads:** Coordinate bag pickup and ensure volunteers stay hydrated.

Hour 3: Final Inspection and Wrap-Up

- **Task:**
 8. Inspect all zones to ensure no trash is left behind.
 9. Double-check waste and recycling separation.
 10. Collect and return all cleaning supplies.
 11. Conduct a group debrief and thank volunteers.
- **Bonus Task:** Take a group photo to celebrate efforts!

Post-Cleanup

- **Trash Disposal:** Arrange for trash and recycling pickup or transport to the nearest waste management facility.
- **Volunteer Appreciation:**
 1. Provide light refreshments as a thank-you.
 2. Share gratitude on social media or via email.
- **Feedback:** Ask team leads and volunteers for suggestions to improve future cleanup efforts.

This structured plan ensures Palmer Park is left clean and enjoyable for the community while fostering teamwork and environmental stewardship.

- crisis counselors.

Conflict Resolution Strategy

- If a situation escalates, security personnel will assess the threat level and engage crisis counselors when possible.
- If necessary, security or police will intervene to ensure the safety of attendees.

Emergency Response Protocols

Identifying and Reporting Threats

- Staff and security personnel will be briefed on recognizing potential threats.
- Suspicious behavior will be reported immediately via walkie-talkies.
- A designated command center will coordinate response efforts.

Evacuation Plan

- Emergency exit routes will be clearly marked.
- Staff will guide attendees to safety if an evacuation is required.
- Police and security will manage crowd control and emergency procedures.

Coordination & Training

Pre-Event Security Briefing

- A mandatory briefing will be held for all security personnel, event staff, and police before the event in June 2025.
- Briefing will cover roles, communication protocols, and emergency procedures.

On-Site Training for Crisis Counselors

- Counselors will receive situational training on common conflict scenarios.
- Role-playing exercises will be conducted to ensure preparedness.

Community Engagement & Awareness

Attendee Safety Information

- Event-goers will be informed about security measures and emergency procedures via signage and announcements.
- A designated information booth will be available for attendees with concerns or questions.

Encouraging a Safe Environment

- Staff and volunteers will promote a culture of respect and safety.
- Attendees will be encouraged to report any concerns to security or event staff.

Post-Event Security Review

Debriefing

- A post-event meeting will be held to review security operations.
- Feedback from security personnel, police, crisis counselors, and staff will be collected and analyzed.
- Any lessons learned will be documented for future events.

Security Plan Conclusion:

This security plan ensures a well-organized and safe environment at the Hotter Than July Palmer Park Picnic. By implementing these protocols, we will foster a secure and welcoming space for all attendees.

Proposed Partners: Hannibal Security, Detroit Police Department, Wayne County Sheriff, Highland Park Police, and Detroit Wayne Intergrated Health Network.

Submitted Wednesday, February 26, 2025

A. Nzere Kwabena
LGBT Detroit
a.nzerekwabena@lgbtdetroit.org

Hotter Than July Palmer Park Picnic

Event Date: Saturday, July 26, 2025

Security & Emergency Plan

About Hotter Than July:

Hotter Than July is the world's longest-running "Black LGBT+ Pride" celebration. The celebration provides LGBT and allied residents and guests with exciting, entertaining, and educational experiences in select spaces. Created in 1995, Hotter Than July evolved into a social justice rally that captured and articulated culture, spirituality, and education in its programming. www.hotterthanjuly.org

Security Plan Objective:

Implement a comprehensive safety and security plan for the Hotter Than July Palmer Park Picnic, ensuring the well-being of all attendees through collaborative efforts between event staff, security personnel, law enforcement, and crisis counselors. The plan address communications, security presence, crisis response and de-escalation, emergency response protocols, coordination & training, community engagement & awareness, and a post-event security review.

Communications Plan

Walkie-Talkies for LGBT Detroit Staff Personnel

- Selected event staff members will be equipped with walkie-talkies.
- Staff will use them to communicate with security personnel and police.
- Designated event staff will be trained on appropriate radio etiquette and emergency procedures.

Security Personnel Communication

- All marked security personnel will carry walkie-talkies to relay information efficiently.
- Security will have a dedicated channel to report potential threats or disturbances.

Security Presence

Third Party Marked Security Personnel

- Clearly identified security staff will patrol the park throughout the event.
- Security will be strategically positioned to ensure visibility and quick response capability.
- Security will be instructed to monitor for suspicious activity, assist in emergencies, and work with police and event staff.

Police Presence

- Uniformed police officers and sheriffs will be stationed at key points throughout the park.
- Officers will provide a visible deterrent and rapid response to any security incidents.
- Police will work in coordination with event security and staff via designated communication channels.

Crisis Response and De-Escalation

Crisis Counselors and De-Escalation Team

- Trained personnel will be available to intervene in conflicts before they escalate.
- Counselors will be stationed in a clearly marked area and will also circulate throughout the park.
- Security and event staff will be trained to identify situations that require intervention from

Hotter Than July Palmer Park Picnic

Event Date: Saturday, July 26, 2025

Traffic Plan

About Hotter Than July:

Hotter Than July is the world's longest-running "Black LGBT+ Pride" celebration. The celebration provides LGBT and allied residents and guests with exciting, entertaining, and educational experiences in select spaces. Created in 1995, Hotter Than July evolved into a social justice rally that captured and articulated culture, spirituality, and education in its programming. www.hotterthanjuly.org

Traffic Plan Objective:

The objective of the Traffic Plan is to ensure the safe, efficient, and orderly movement of vehicles and pedestrians during Hotter Than July. This plan is designed to minimize congestion, provide clear access for emergency services, and facilitate smooth entry and exit for attendees, vendors, and event staff.

The plan goals include:

- Informing the public through website and social media of on street parking availability.
- Coordinating with the Detroit Police Department and transportation authorities to manage road closures, enforce traffic regulations, and maintain smooth traffic flow.
- Prioritizing accessibility for individuals with disabilities and ensuring safe pedestrian pathways.
- Developing contingency plans for unexpected traffic delays or emergencies.

This plan will be executed in collaboration with event organizers, the Detroit Police Department, city officials, and public safety personnel to create a seamless and safe experience for all participants.

Proposed Partners: Hannibal Security, Detroit Police Department, Wayne County Sheriff, and Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network.

Submitted Wednesday, February 26, 2025

A. Nzere Kwabena
LGBT Detroit
a.nzerekwabena@lgbtdetroit.org

CITY OF DETROIT, OFFICE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SPECIAL EVENTS PETITION

Petition No: _____

Event Name: Hotter Than July

Event Status: In Review- Special Events Management Team (Step 1 of 6)

Petitioner Name / Organization: LGBT Detroit

Event Location: Palmer Park

Event Date(s) and Time(s): 07/26/25 9:00 AM to 07/26/25 5:00 PM

Type of Event: Festival

Applicant Contact:
Jerron Totten
jerrontotten@lgbtdetroit.org
+1 (313) 397-2127

Submission Date:	01/28/25 1
Date of Clerk's Office Referral:	3/5/25
Date of City Departments Sign Off:	3/5/25
Date Referred to Council:	3/7/23

Department Approvals

DPD	DFD	EMS	GSD	DDOT	MPD	DPW	DHD
DPD Reviewed-Ready for Council	DFD Reviewed-Ready for Council	EMS Reviewed-Ready for Council	GSD Reviewed-Ready for Council	DDOT Approval Not Required	MPD Approval Not Required	DPW Approval Not Required	DHD Reviewed-Ready for Council

BSEED
BSEED Reviewed-Ready for Council

Mayor's Office Special Events Signature: *Jaksima Fife*

Date: March 6, 2025

General Event Information

Has this event been hosted before? Yes

Has the applicant (individual or organization) ever applied for a Special Event with the City of Detroit before? Yes

Is this an annual event? Yes

Event Website: www.hotterthanjuly.org

Which spaces will be used? Park

Will this event include the use or sale of marijuana? No

Event Description

Brief Event Purpose & Description:

Hotter Than July is the world's longest running Black LGBT+ Pride celebration. 2025 marks the 30th anniversary of the project's existence. The largest attended event during the celebration is the Palmer Park Picnic. The Picnic brings together community members, sponsors, health providers and social service providers for a day of celebration, free health screenings and access to much needed services.

Estimated Peak Attendance: 2500

Estimated Total Attendance: _____

Is this a public event? Yes

Will there be ticket sales or admission charged? No

Does this event use Hart Plaza? No

Will there be merchandise sold? No

Will you be taking donations? No

Is this a charity event? No

Does this event involve campers, tents and/or RVs? No

Will this event involve a petting zoo or tattoo art (not including temporary tattoos)? No

Contact Information

Organization / Petitioner Name: LGBT Detroit

Mailing Address: 20025 Greenfield Rd.

Detroit MI 48235

Primary Contact:	Secondary Contact:
Jerron Totten	
jerrontotten@lgbdetroit.org	

Organization Type: Nonprofit

Organization Website: www.lgbdetroit.org

Event Setup & Breakdown

Begin Setup: 07/26/25 7:00 AM

Complete Setup: 07/26/25 9:00 AM

Setup Location(s): Palmer Park

Event Start: 07/26/25 9:00 AM

Event End: 07/26/25 5:00 PM

Begin Tear Down: 07/26/25 5:00 PM

Complete Tear Down: 07/26/25 7:00 PM

Number of Trash Containers: 6 Number of Recycling Containers: 4

Cleaning Service Vendor: _____

Other Waste Elements: _____

Street Closures & Parking

How many streets will be closed: 0 _____

Will you be closing any part of Woodward Avenue? _____

Street Closures (if there are 1-4 closed streets):

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Will you charge attendees for parking? No _____

Valet parking or blocking metered parking spaces? Neither _____

Describe the parking plan to accommodate anticipated attendance:
Attendees will take advantage of street parking.

Food & Beverage

Will food be served? No _____

Will food be prepared on site? _____

Number of food trucks: _____ Number of non-truck food vendors: _____

Food & Beverage (cont.)

Will any type of alcohol be served (including beer)? No

Will there be sales, service and/or consumption of alcohol in public at the event? _____

What type(s) of alcohol will be served? _____

Day(s) and time(s) alcohol will be served: _____

Will ice be used in any served beverages? No

Stages, Tents, & Structures

Is a stage being built? Yes

How many stages will be used? 1

Do any of the stages have a canopy? Yes

Number of tents 10' x 10' and smaller: 2

Number of tents larger than 10' x 10': 0

Tent Contractor: _____

What other structures will your event include? _____

Will your event use any grills? No

What kind of grills? _____

Utilities & Portable Restrooms

Event Utilities that will be used: Generators

How will generators be fueled? _____

Generator contractor: _____

Will additional wiring be installed? No

Does the event require access to a hydrant? No

Will there be amplified sound? Yes

Will a sound system be used? Yes

Will you be providing Port-a-johns? Yes

Security & Emergency Plans

Will the event have a security contractor? Yes

Security Contractor: _____

Number of private personnel per shift: _____

Which of these apply to the private security personnel? Licensed, Armed Bonded

Will you contract emergency medical services? No

Name of emergency medical services contractor: _____

Does this event include fireworks? No

Day(s) and time(s) of fireworks: _____

Fireworks vendor: _____

Attachments

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Applicant Signature Page (required)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Event Clean Up Plan (required)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Security Plan (500 or less attendees)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Emergency Response Plan & Medical Procedures (500+ attendees)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Communication and Community Impact Plan (500+ attendees)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining of Traffic Plan (1000+ attendees or if closing a street)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Build and Breakdown Schedule (if you are erecting any structures)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Site Map Plan (if event involves any temporary elements including tents)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Emergency Medical Contractor Agreement (if applicable)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Barricades Provider Agreement (if applicable)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Security Contractor Agreement (if applicable)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Port-a-john Contractor Agreement (if applicable)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sanitation Contractor Agreement (if applicable)

City Council Member: _____

Resolved, The Mayor's Office is hereby authorized and directed to issue permits to LGBT Detroit to host "Hotter Thann July" (#2025-043) on July 26, 2025 from 9:00 AM- 5:00 PM at Plamer Park.

PROVIDED, that there will be DPD Assisted Event; Contracted with Private Security and be it further

PROVIDED, that there will be DFD Pending Inspections; and be it further

PROVIDED, that there will be GSD Parks & Recreation Permits Required; and be it further

PROVIDED, that there will be BSEED Permits Required for Tents and Stages be it further

PROVIDED, that there will be a Business License Required obtained following City Council approval; and be it further

PROVIDED, that all necessary permits must be obtained prior to the event. If permits are not obtained, departments can enforce closure of event.