

City of Detroit


CITY COUNCIL

GABRIELA SANTIAGO-ROMERO
COUNCIL MEMBER, DISTRICT 6

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jessica Parker, Group Executive of Public Services
City of Detroit

THRU: Council President Mary Sheffield

FROM: Council Member Gabriela Santiago-Romero 

DATE: August 13, 2025

RE: Special Events Process and Enforcement

My office has received several complaints about events in Corktown. Issues raised include lack of notice, parking, noise, and enforcement.

We appreciate efforts made by the community to reconcile concerns in coordination with the City, and are looking to ensure standard practices across the board.

The Special Events Application Guide ([here](#)) includes a section called “Communication and Community Impact Plan”. Please answer the following:

1. Can you please advise how the City verifies petitioners have sought community input?
2. How do you verify the community has ‘bought in to’ or ‘approved of’ the event?
3. How do you verify the petitioner has notified the community of the event?
4. Do you receive copies of the communications petitioners send to community members?
 - a. Are petitioners required to email? Call? And/or go door-to-door?
5. Do you coordinate with the Department of Neighborhoods to help with this?

Regarding parking, please answer the following:

1. Under what conditions are parking plans required?
2. How is the community informed of any street closures?
3. How far in advance are they informed?

Regarding noise, please answer the following:

1. Are petitioners required to adhere the City’s Noise Ordinance, particularly between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.?
2. What is the acceptable decibel limit?
3. How is this enforced?
4. If there is a believed violation, who do residents contact?

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5. Is the local precinct notified of approved special events, in the event of resident reported complaints, so DPD officers can respond to enforce our ordinances?

Generally:

1. Does any of the above vary based on event crowd size (i.e. 50 vs. 500 vs. 1,000+)?
2. Is any of the above relative to location of special event (i.e. on city land vs. privately-owned)?

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you have any questions. Thank you.

Cc: Honorable Detroit City Council
Louise Jones, City Clerk's Office
Malik Washington, City Council Liaison