



City of Detroit

CITY COUNCIL

MARY SHEFFIELD
CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT
DISTRICT 5

MEMORANDUM

TO: Gary Brown, Director, Water & Sewerage Department
FROM: Mary Sheffield, President, Detroit City Council
DATE: March 18, 2022
RE: Water & Sewerage Department, Budget Hearing Questions for Fiscal Year 2022/2023

SUMMARY:

1. The grand total of positions in the Water & Sewerage Department that was adopted in FY 2022 is 634. In FY 2023, that total decreases to 594. Is there a reason for the decrease considering that Detroit's unemployment rate is 20%?
 - a. Are any employees on furlough?
2. The grand total of expenditures of the Water Department increases by \$17,314,341. What is the main reason for this increase?
3. One of the Sewerage Disposal System's roles includes serving as first responder for necessary repairs occurring within Detroit. How does the department plan to keep record of those repairs and those tended to for the 2022-2023 fiscal year?
4. Another role of the Sewerage Disposal System is maintaining and upgrading the Detroit Local System. Where do you expect to get the funds to do such maintenance for FY 2022-2023?
5. The legal budget for the Sewerage Department is proposed to increase by \$115,375,193 from FY 22-23. How will the department use these funds?
6. What is the status of the service lead line?
7. How does the department plan to assist and end basement flooding after heavy rains?
8. Dozens of metro Detroit communities have drinking water with high levels of nitrate, which EWG considers unsafe. Nitrate is associated with an increased risk of cancer birth defects, stillbirths, type 2 diabetes, and thyroid and kidney disease. How does the department plan to address this issue?
9. What is the process for lead service line clean-up?

10. What is the process to get a lead service line replaced?
11. How does the department advertise basement clean-ups from last year's flood disaster?
12. What is the department's process for sewer maintenance?

Please contact Caryn Shannon from my office at caryn.shannon@detroitmi.gov if you have any questions.

Cc: Honorable Colleagues
City Clerk