



CITY OF DETROIT

MARY SHEFFIELD

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

MEMORANDUM

To: Elana A. Rugh, Executive Director, Detroit Historical Society

Through: [Click here to enter text.](#)

From: Council President Mary Sheffield submitting memorandum relative to

Date: 3/9/2023

RE: Questions for the Detroit Historical Society FY 2023-24 Budget Hearing

SUMMARY:

1. The Administration is proposing major cuts to the Detroit Historical Society's and other Museums' budgets. Specifically, the Detroit Historical Society support is being cut by 50% from \$1 million to \$500,000.

[Did the Detroit Historical Society meet with representatives of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer prior to this recommendation being made? How will this cut affect programming, staffing and the overall functioning of the Detroit Historical Society?](#)

2. It has been proven by many studies that the arts and culture industry is a key cog in the wheel for thriving and vibrant cities.

[What does the Detroit Historical Society uniquely provide to the City of Detroit, in your opinion? How does the proposed budget cut affect that impact?](#)

3. The arts, culture and history is an important part of the educational experience especially in primary education curriculums.

What interactions, programs or relationships does the Detroit Historical Society have with learning institutions? On average, how many school-aged children does the Detroit Historical Society service annually?

DEPARTMENTAL CONTACT:

Name: Brian White

Position: Chief of Staff