

City of Detroit

**CITY COUNCIL**

**MARY SHEFFIELD**

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

DISTRICT 5

**M e m O R a N d u m**

**TO:** David Whitaker, Director, Legislative Policy Division

**THROUGH:** Council Member Scott Benson, Chair, Public Health and Safety Standing Committee

**FROM:** Council President Pro Tem Mary Sheffield

**DATE:** January 29, 2020

**RE:** Request for LPD to Draft an Ordinance for a Moratorium on Water Shut-offs Until a Water Affordability Ordinance is Approved

Water shutoffs has been, and is increasingly becoming more and more of, a threat to public health due to the various infectious communicable diseases affecting the world. When speaking about the recent outbreak of the Coronavirus, a doctor was quoted as saying the most effective way for individuals to protect themselves is to wash their hands and have access to clean water. For medical, social and familial reasons, water shutoffs are destroying people, our community and pose a significant threat to Detroit’s public health and financial vitality.

Therefore, I am requesting that LPD draft an ordinance placing a moratorium on water shutoffs until a water affordability ordinance/plan is passed and those without water have their service restored.

Thank you.

Cc: Honorable Colleagues

 Honorable City Clerk