



City of Detroit

CITY COUNCIL

MARY SHEFFIELD
CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT
DISTRICT 5

MEMORANDUM

TO: Legislative Policy Division (LPD)
FROM: Mary Sheffield, President, Detroit City Council
DATE: June 20, 2022
RE: Request for Drafting of Ordinance Officially Creating Juneteenth a Paid City Holiday

On June 19th of every year, we celebrate the end of enslaved African Americans in the United States. The holiday was first celebrated in Texas, where on that date in 1865, slaves were declared free under the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863. In 2020, I sponsored, and Council unanimously passed a resolution strongly urging the administration to proclaim June 19th, also known as Juneteenth, as a paid city holiday for all employees. This memorandum is to follow-up on that resolution to ensure that we honor such a day to commemorate the future of black economic liberation.

My office is asking the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) to draft an ordinance officially creating June 19th (Juneteenth) as a paid city holiday. Please contact Caryn Shannon from my office at caryn.shannon@detroitmi.gov if you have any questions.

Cc: Honorable Colleagues
City Clerk