

City of Detroit


CITY COUNCIL

GABRIELA SANTIAGO-ROMERO
COUNCIL MEMBER, DISTRICT 6

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ron Brundidge, Director
Department of Public Works

THRU: Council Member Mary Sheffield, Council President

FROM: Council Member Gabriela Santiago-Romero 

DATE: March 16, 2023

RE: FY 2023 – 2024 Budget: Department of Public Works

Thank you for your presentation. Please provide a response to the following questions and concerns:

1. According to City policy, residents are responsible for repairing sidewalk flags. In practice, this leads to fees and very few sidewalk flags replaced. Last year, I inquired about the cost to absorb this responsibility into the City's operations – or to a pilot a low-income program to exempt households eligible for programs such as the HOPE property tax exemption.
 - a. Please provide an update on this inquiry.
 - b. Could the Department potentially utilize ARPA dollars to offset some of the fees residents are required to pay for sidewalk flags?
2. What is the plan or policy to address mounting trash accumulating in our neighborhoods? This includes dumping and bulk items left on the side of the road.
 - a. Have there been any discussions with BSEED to address the dumping and blight we see throughout the City?

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