

# City of Detroit

CITY COUNCIL

MARY SHEFFIELD  
CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT  
DISTRICT 5

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Charles Simms, Interim Executive Fire Commissioner. Detroit Fire Department  
**FROM:** City Council President Mary Sheffield  
**DATE:** March 24, 2023  
**RE:** Detroit Fire Department Budget Questions FY23-24

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1. There was an alarming number of resident complaints regarding broken fire hydrants this year. We know that DWSD has a plan underway to replace all broken hydrants. Please provide the most recent annual fire hydrant inspection reports. Is there a strategy in place to prevent this issue from reoccurring?
2. In 2019, I sponsored the Lock Box Ordinance, which requires the installation of key lock boxes outside the entrances of certain senior and multi-family residential buildings in Detroit. Please provide a compliance report for all buildings that fall under this ordinance. Report should include the last date of inspection.
3. One service that the Fire Department provides is Fire Safety Education. Is this your main form of community engagement? If not, what other community engagement initiatives do you have? Section 28240 shows a planned reduction of Community Engagement Funding. Please share the reason behind this funding decrease.
4. What metrics are used to evaluate the effectiveness of your employee health and wellness programs? Are these programs optional or required? What portion of your FY2024 budget is allocated for this?
5. There is a \$20M increase for salaries but only a \$1M increase for employee benefits. How are employee benefits dispersed for the merged role?

6. There are zero funds allocated for equipment acquisition expenditures this FY, and zero forecasted through 2027. Are there truly no planned equipment replacements over the next four years?
7. There is an increase in projected grant funding this year. What was the strategy to increase grant funding for the Fire Department?
8. FY2024's Capital Projects Budget is three times the amount of FY2023's capital projects budget. Please share all planned capital projects for this year.