



CITY OF DETROIT  
FIRE DEPARTMENT  
DETROIT PUBLIC SAFETY HEADQUARTERS

1301 THIRD STREET  
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226  
PHONE (313) 596-2900 TTY: 711  
FAX (313) 596-2888  
WWW.DETROITMI.GOV

To: City Council Member Angela Whitfield-Calloway

From: Charles Simms, Interim Executive Fire Commissioner  
Detroit Fire Department

Date: March 24, 2023

**Re: Responses to City Council Member Angela Whitfield-Calloway**

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Please find below responses to your questions dated March 13, 2023, regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Proposed Budget for the Fire Department.

The office of Council Member Angela Calloway respectfully submits the following questions to the Fire Department as a part of the 2023-2024 budget hearing process.

1. **QUESTION:** In early 2023, it was reported that the City of Detroit had approximately one thousand fire hydrants out of order. DFD fire crews regularly check the condition of fire hydrants. In February 2023, what was the number of fire hydrants out of order in the entire City; how many fire hydrants were out of order in District 2; and do you have a map showing the location of the disabled fire hydrants?
  - A. *By the end of February 2023, there were approximately 468 inoperable hydrants citywide.*
  - B. *On Feb 28, there were approximately 41 inoperable hydrants in District 2. Please also refer to the attached map (District 2 All Hydrants).*
2. **QUESTION:** What is the dollar amount allocated towards fire hydrant repair; what is the average cost per fire hydrant repair?
  - A. *The Detroit Water & Sewerage Department allocates \$7 million for hydrant repairs during the fiscal year.*
  - B. *Average cost per hydrant repair is \$7,000.*
3. **QUESTION:** City-wide, what was the number of 2022 fire responses that were delayed due to a damaged fire hydrant causing firefighters to find a different source of water? In District 2, what was the number of 2022, fire responses that were delayed due to a damaged fire hydrant causing firefighters to find a different source of water?
  - A. *In 2022, there were 15 fires citywide (1%) where a bad hydrant was reported.*
  - B. *In 2022, there were 2 fires, in District 2, where a bad hydrant was reported.*



4. **QUESTION:** What is the plan of action to address the number of fire hydrant repairs needed? Please note that simply passing the responsibility off to Detroit Water and Sewerage Department will not be an acceptable response.

*DFD and DWSD are working together to ensure inoperable hydrants are reported and addressed with urgency. DWSD has reassigned staff and hired contractors to address the inoperable hydrants that arose during this inspection period between DFD and DWSD. DWSD will continue to keep resources in place to work on the inoperable hydrants.*

5. **QUESTION:** Will the Fire Chief be available to attend the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department budget hearing currently scheduled for Thursday, March 23, 2023 at 11:00 am?

*Yes, Chief of Fire Operations will attend.*

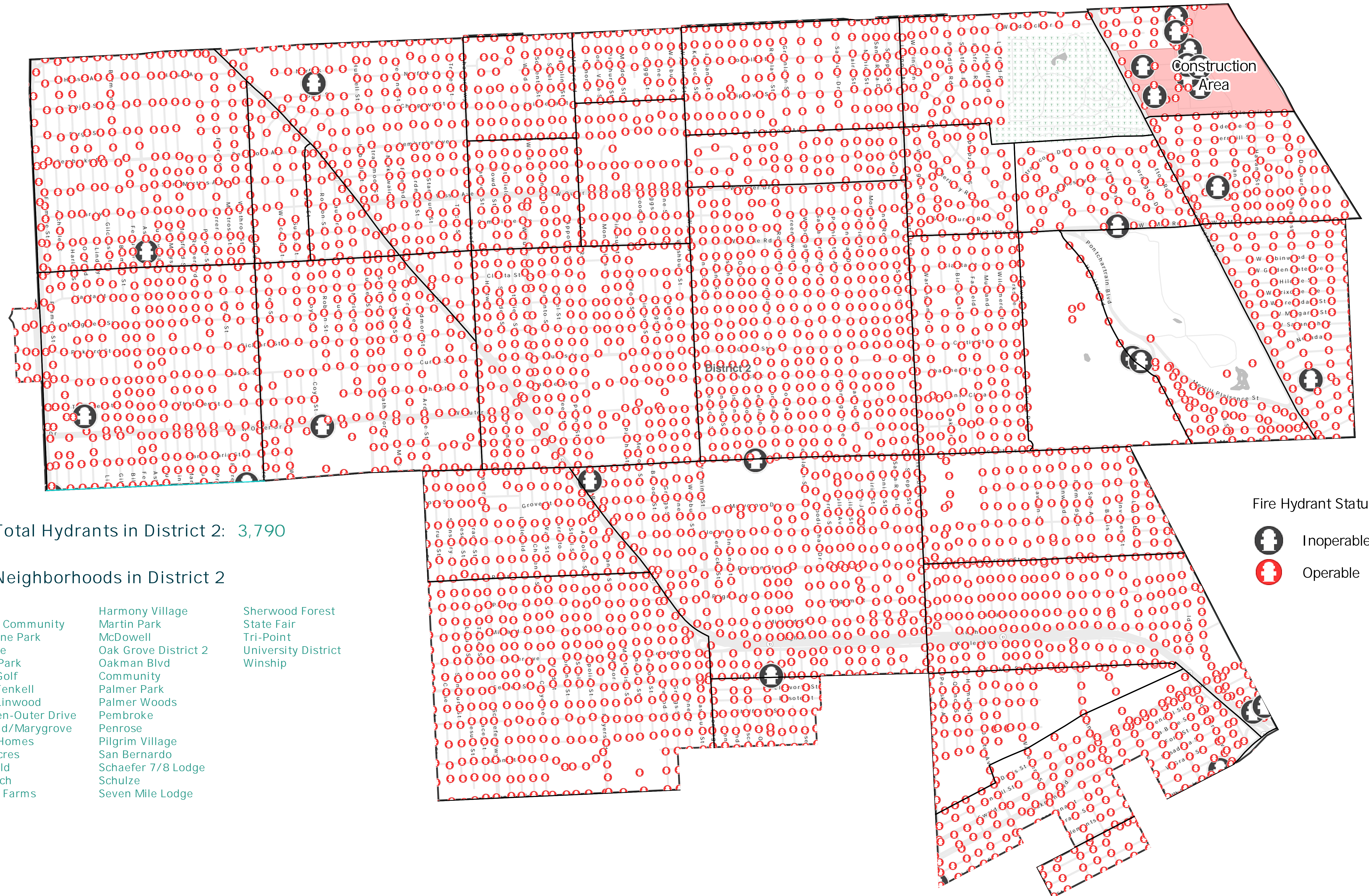
6. **QUESTION:** What is the current number of vacancies for firefighters and EMS positions? What is the number of recruits scheduled to go through training in FY 2023-24? What is the number of vacancies anticipated for December 31, 2023? What is the number of vacancies anticipated for June 30, 2024?

- A. *All EMS vacancies are converted to Firefighter/EMT dual role vacancies. Currently, there are 43 Firefighter/EMT dual role vacancies for the department.*
- B. *Currently, DFD has 42 recruits in the academy, 10 more starting March 20, and 20 starting in April for a total of 72 recruits for the remaining of FY23. DFD is expecting to hire approx. 120 Firefighter/EMTs for FY24.*
- C. *Due to ongoing retirements, DFD anticipates 20 vacancies (1.5%) for December 31, 2023.*
- D. *Due to ongoing retirements, DFD anticipates 20 vacancies (1.5%) for June 30, 2024.*

Approved by:

Charles Simms  
Interim Executive Fire Commissioner  
Detroit Fire Department

# Hydrant Operability - District 2





Total Hydrants in District 2: 3,790

Neighborhoods in District 2

- |                       |                      |                     |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Bagley                | Harmony Village      | Sherwood Forest     |
| Bethune Community     | Martin Park          | State Fair          |
| Blackstone Park       | McDowell             | Tri-Point           |
| Chalfonte             | Oak Grove District 2 | University District |
| College Park          | Oakman Blvd          | Winship             |
| Detroit Golf          | Community            |                     |
| Dexter-Fenkell        | Palmer Park          |                     |
| Dexter-Linwood        | Palmer Woods         |                     |
| Evergreen-Outer Drive | Pembroke             |                     |
| Fitzgerald/Marygrove  | Penrose              |                     |
| Garden Homes          | Pilgrim Village      |                     |
| Green Acres           | San Bernardo         |                     |
| Greenfield            | Schaefer 7/8 Lodge   |                     |
| Greenwich             | Schulze              |                     |
| Grixdale Farms        | Seven Mile Lodge     |                     |

Fire Hydrant Status

-  Inoperable
-  Operable

