

JANUARY 2025
CITY OF DETROIT
District 5

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



COUNCIL *Mary* PRESIDENT
SHEFFIELD



“ *Your present circumstances don't determine where you can go; they merely determine where you start.* ”
— *Nido Qubein*

ON THE COUNCIL TABLE

RECENTLY...

2025 is here! Here are some current happenings:

NEIGHBORHOOD SOLAR PROJECT PHASE 2:

Council is now reviewing contracts for Phase Two of the Neighborhood Solar Project, which was approved last fall. Phase One involved converting four zones to solar infrastructure, and Phase Two will bring the final two zones to complete the project.

Although the solar project has been approved, we are carefully reviewing each contract and resolution to ensure the project progresses smoothly.

A few contracts will be discussed in the upcoming Public Health & Safety Standing Committee meeting, which will be held on Monday, January 13 at 10 a.m.

DISEASED TREE PROGRAM UPDATE

We received a response to our inquiry regarding the Dead, Dangerous, and Diseased Tree Program's status. Here are the key updates:

As of November 4, 2024, over 1,400 trees have been serviced across all City Council districts. The program has been allocated \$7.1 million, with \$3.4 million invoiced to date and an additional \$2.5 million for FY25 to service 3,500 trees.

Approximately 2,800 trees remain on the waitlist. These will be prioritized for service if additional funding becomes available.

LEAD-BASED PAINT HAZARD REDUCTION GRANT

The City of Detroit has been awarded \$7.75 million from the Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Grant program by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

HUD is providing this funding to help protect children and families from lead-based paint hazards and other home health hazards. The grant will be used to identify and address dangerous lead in the homes of low-income families.

This grant acceptance will be presented for a vote at the upcoming Formal Session, which will be held on Tuesday, January 14 at 10 a.m.

ORGANIZING FOR ACTION BUDGET INPUT MEETING

Council is back in session! After a productive recess, City Council has resumed its regular activities. My top priorities include scheduling community meetings, reviewing important contracts, advancing legislative initiatives, and **preparing for the upcoming budget season.**

I'm excited to announce this year's **Organizing for Action** meeting on **Wednesday, January 29th**. Please join me as we work together to prepare for a budget season that will shape the future of Detroit and best support our community's needs.

Keeping Up with the President



NEIGHBORHOOD BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM

I attended a press conference to announce the re-opening of the Neighborhood Beautification Program (NBP) Grants. The NBP is a program I proposed that passed in 2022, my first year as Council President. It was created to provide grants to neighborhood block clubs and organizations that aim to beautify their communities. Since the program's inception over 155 organizations have received funding, with a total investment of more than \$2.21 million. This round offers grants ranging from \$500 to \$15,000.

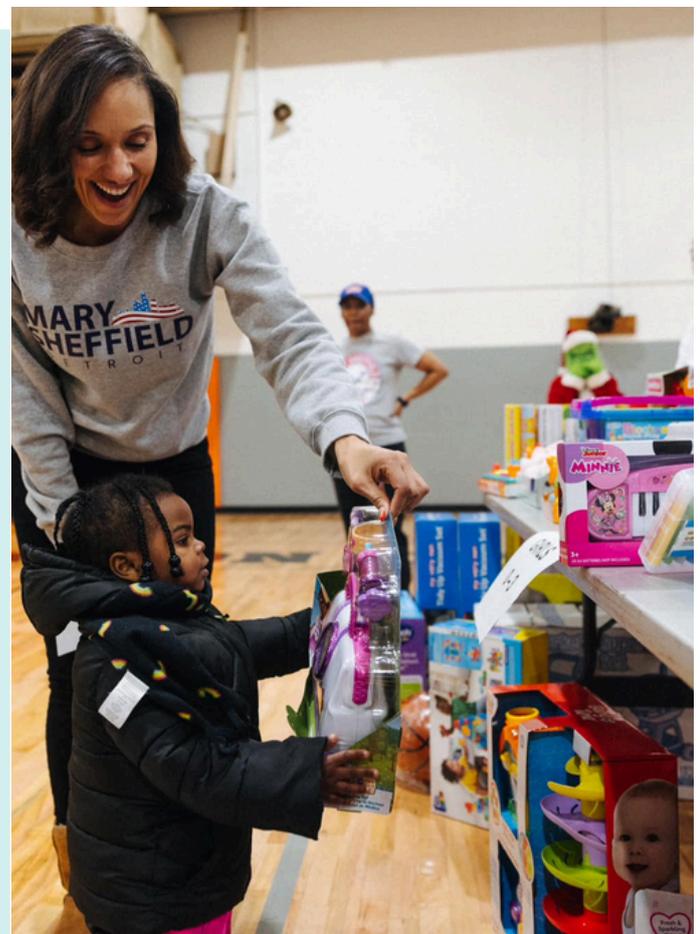
The applications were open in December and have now closed. Winners will be announced in Spring of 2025.

ANNUAL TOY GIVEAWAY

I'm beyond grateful I was able to host my annual Holiday Toy Giveaway and bring joy to so many families in Detroit. Together, we distributed thousands of toys just in time for the holidays. It was truly heartwarming to see the smiles on our children's faces and know we helped make their holiday season brighter.



The Mission Continues... The holiday season may be over, but the giving does not stop. We are already planning more events this year to continue our mission of supporting our beloved residents.



Keeping Up with the President



ANNUAL SENIOR HOLIDAY PARTY

Last month, I had the pleasure of hosting one of my all-time favorite events—my senior holiday party—at the Pistons Performance Center. It was a wonderful night filled with food, dancing, gifts, and incredible entertainment from Detroit's own Fast Freddy. Celebrating our seniors always fills my heart with joy, I feel truly blessed at each event.

A big thank you to Henry Ford Health for sponsoring transportation for those who needed a ride to the party. And a special shoutout to my thoughtful grandma Mary, who brought her beautifully wrapped gifts to surprise and delight some of our guests.

As we step into the new year, I'm looking forward to continuing my work in uplifting and celebrating our amazing seniors

PIQUETTE FLATS COMPLETION

I joined city leaders to celebrate the completion of Piquette Flats, a stunning transformation of the historic Studebaker Service Building into 161 workforce apartments. Located next to the Ford Piquette Avenue Plant, this project breathes new life into a vital piece of Detroit's history.

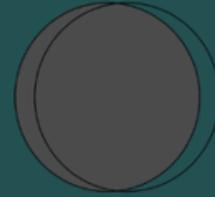
With nearly 40% of units priced below 80% AMI, Piquette Flats is now one of Detroit's largest workforce housing developments. Thanks to creative funding partnerships—including support from the City of Detroit, Michigan State University, and Flagstar Bank—this redevelopment increases housing accessibility while honoring our city's roots. It's a powerful example of how we can preserve history while building a stronger future for Detroit.



SAVE THE DATE



COMMUNITY RESOURCE FAIR



HELPING YOU FIND THE HELP YOU NEED



DETROIT AT WORK COLLINGWOOD
LOCATED IN THE **DURFEE INNOVATION SOCIETY**
2470 COLLINGWOOD ST. DETROIT, MI 48206



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2025 @ 10A-1:30P

We all need a little extra sometimes. Join us at Detroit at Work, and Detroit City Council President, Mary Sheffield, so that we can connect you to the resources you need to get on the right track!

Detroit-based services will feature programs to help with:



- FREE WINTER COATS (WHILE SUPPLIES LAST)
- APPLICATION FOR FREE EYEGLASSES
- BABY SUPPLY ASSISTANCE
- TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE
- HOME OWNERSHIP INFORMATION
- UTILITY ASSISTANCE
- CHILD CARE SERVICES
- EXPUNGEMENT ASSISTANCE
- CLOTHING ASSISTANCE

For more information on this fair, please email:
msamuel@detroitatwork.com

Connect With Me

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT MARY SHEFFIELD WANTS TO ATTEND
YOUR BLOCK CLUB OR COMMUNITY MEETING!**

***“I want to
hear from
YOU!”***

**There is so much happening in the
neighborhoods, and I want to hear all
about it. Please invite me and my team
out to attend your next meeting!**



**Please visit bit.ly/InviteSheffield
to submit your block club
information today!**

**If you have any questions, please email
CouncilMemberSheffield@detroitmi.gov
or call 313-224-4505.**



Church Visit

Council President Mary Sheffield
wants to join you in worship!



I WANT TO
**VISIT
YOU**

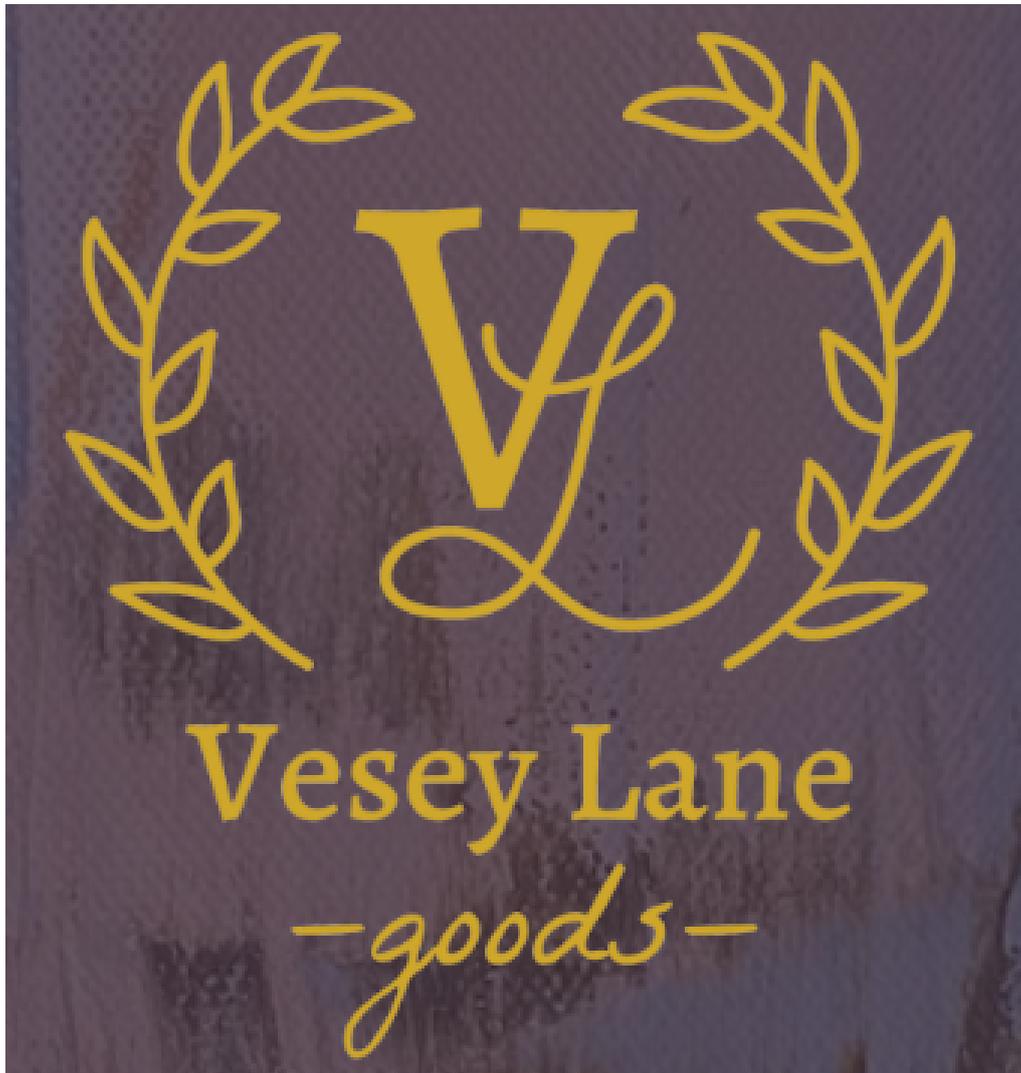


I would be honored to join you in worship and visit your church. Together, we can continue strengthening our community. I look forward



PICTURED: My recent visit with Reverend Cindy Rudolph of Oak Grove AME Church.

D5 BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT



Vesey Lane Goods will have their Grand Opening on February 18th!

This black woman-owned shop specializes in gifts, home décor, and beautifully handcrafted greeting cards items that add a special touch to any occasion. Whether you're looking for unique gifts or custom pieces for weddings and events, Vesey Lane Goods has you covered. Their grand opening is next month — give them a visit and add a little charm to your life! Check them out at

www.veseylanegoods.com to learn more.

**VESEY LANE GOODS IS LOCATED AT
9920 KERCHEVAL AVE, DETROIT, MI 48214**



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Stay Connected.**

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Council President Mary Sheffield

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Need assistance? Contact my office!

By Phone: (313) 224-4505

By Email: CouncilMemberSheffield@detroitmi.gov

*“The best way to predict the
future is to create it.”*

— Abraham Lincoln

