Dear Detroit,

It's been one year since my appointment to your city council and what a wonderful year it's been! Words can hardly express how blessed I am for each and every day given to serve you and every citizen within our great city of Detroit.

I have come to deeply appreciate the complex challenges facing our city, especially those that affect our health and safety, our children's education, and our financial stability. I have spent countless hours working to familiarize myself with these issues and finding ways to overcome them. Whether I'm working with the

law department to draft new legislation, working with our police and fire departments to improve what we already have in place, or meeting with community groups to better understand the issues all Detroiters face, I am always working to improve the place that you and I call home.

My staff and I have already gotten to meet and talk to many Detroit residents. If we haven't met yet, I encourage you to contact my office and to be on the lookout for future events and community group meetings where I would love to meet you in person.

Please feel free to contact me anytime at (313) 224-4248 or by email at *councilmemberayers@detroitmi.gov*.

Sincerely,

Janeé L. Ayers

Council Member at-Large

City of Detroit



Janeé L. Ayers

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2 Woodward Avenue, Suite 1340 Detroit, MI 48226 (313) 224-4248 (office) (313) 224-1524 (fax)



Water Residential Assistance Program (WRAP)

The Detroit Water & Sewerage Department (DWSD) is set to begin shutting off water soon at Residences that have not paid.

Here are some points to keep in mind

DWSD will place door hangers at residences at risk of having their water shut off.

Residents experiencing financial difficulty in paying their bills can contact DWSD or discuss payment plan arrangements in person at a Customer Care Center.

Make sure to read your monthly billing statements to know more about your account status. If you have a past due balance, contact DWSD immediately to pay your bill by phone or online by clicking the link on the website.

Contact information for DWSD

Phone: (313) 267-8000

Website: https://www.waynemetro.org/wrap/

Or visit:

Eastside Customer Care Center Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

13303 E. McNichols (1-1/2 blocks west of Gratiot) Saturday 8:00 am -3:00 pm (beginning April 30)

In addition, DWSD customers with delinquent water bills or who are struggling with monthly payments may apply for assistance through the regional Water Residential Assistance Program (WRAP), the DWSD 10/30/50 Payment Plan, the State of Michigan and other sources. Those resources include:

Residential water customers who are at or below 150% of the federal poverty level (for example, a maximum annual income of \$17,805 for a single person or \$36,450 annual household income for a family of four) are eligible to apply for financial assistance through the WRAP. As long as you meet the income qualifications and provide the required identification and documents, you may apply for the WRAP. Whether you have delinquent water bills or are current with your bills but struggle in paying on time, you are encouraged to apply.

During a 12-month period, WRAP will:

Provide a \$25 credit toward your monthly bill for 12 months (a total of \$300);

Freeze your past due amount (if you are behind on your DWSD water and sewer payments) for 12 months upon successful adherence to the payment plan;

Apply up to \$700 toward your past due amount after you make payments for 12 consecutive months per the agreement;

Conduct a water conservation audit if your household water usage exceeds 20% of the average household water consumption in the city which may include up to \$1,000 in water conservation and minor home plumbing repairs;

Offer an additional 12 months (no more than 24 months total per household) if you remain eligible that will include the \$25 monthly bill credit and financial assistance toward arrears up to \$700 (if you continue to have an outstanding past due balance).

DWSD 10/30/50 Payment Plan

The 10/30/50 Payment Plan was developed for DWSD customers who have past due balances and/or are delinquent on their accounts. The plan, which has no income restrictions, and allows payments to be spread during a 24-month period with as little as a 10% down payment on the past due amount. The 10/30/50 Plan is only available to Detroit residents who have responsibility for the household's water and sewer bill.

You may apply for the DWSD 10/30/50 Payment Plan by calling (313) 267-8000 or visit the Eastside Customer Care Center during business hours.

MDHHS State Emergency Relief Program

Up to \$175 per year in assistance is available to qualifying low-income households. Apply online at www.mibridges.michigan. govor at your local MDHHS office. Call 2-1-1 or go to www.michigan.gov/mdhhs and click on the "Contact Us" link if you don't know the location of the office that serves you.

MDHHS Emergency Services

This program provides additional assistance beyond State Emergency Relief. It is a "last resort" funding source for people who can demonstrate they have exhausted funding from other possible resources and are unable to get services restored. The application process is the same as for State Emergency Relief.

Andre Johnson Founder Detroit Recovery Project

Detroit Native Son, Andre Johnson.

xpelled as a high school sophomore, sentenced to a juvenile facility for selling drugs, and living on his own in Cass Corridor. This doesn't seem like the pathway of someone who, in 25 short years, would be at the White House being honored as one of ten "Champions of Change for Prevention, Treatment and Recovery", chosen from a pool of 920 nominees. The honor seeks to recognize individuals doing extraordinary things to empower and inspire members of their community.

Johnson knows his backstory is not the traditional path to success, but that's a large part of what inspires him to give back to his community and find that path for others. He was able to turn his life around: he entered rehab, has been substance-free since 1988 and earned a GED diploma. He would then go on to be a proud WCCC graduate and Morehouse man, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from Morehouse College and later a Masters of Arts degree in organizational management from the University of Phoenix. Now he wants to help his community do the same.

In 2005, Johnson came back to Detroit and started the Detroit Recovery Project (DRP) that emphasizes the rebuilding of entire communities affected by mental illness and substance addiction. He has raised \$15 million in local, state and federal grants for the Detroit Recovery Project. DRP focuses not only on individuals, but families and neighbors, and provides access to a network of effective,

peer-driven, holistic health services available on the east and west sides of the city. Services include GED preparation; twelve-step support groups; housing assistance; job readiness and employment assistance; and HIV prevention, testing, and counseling services.

Johnson was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services to serve on the Substance Abuse Mental Health Service Administration/Center for Substance Abuse Treatment National Advisory Council. "From Detroit to his work overseas, Andre has chosen to dedicate his talents to serve the American people. We look forward to honoring Andre's work as a Champion of Change," said White House Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett. Johnson also serves on Councilwoman Ayers' Returning Citizens Task Force, and is passionate about reducing recidivism and/or relapse in Detroit's vulnerable populations.

Andre is still in the trenches for those who are taking their first step and continues to show them the way. As he continues to ascend, he is breaking down the door for others to enter a new quality of life. He has worked hard to form a community space free from shame and full of faith in recovery. Andre Johnson embodies the true spirit of Detroit. It is no coincidence that Johnson and our great city seem to be on parallel pathways to recovery. It is long overdue but let Andre Johnson and his testimony serve as notice to our region that the spirit of Detroit is stronger than ever and is a spirit that knows no boundaries.



You can contact **Andre Johnson** and the **Detroit Recovery Project** team at **recovery4detroit.com**

Body Cameras

This spring, the Detroit Police Department will be making a major upgrade that will help keep both our officers and our citizens safer. On May 17, 2016, City Council approved the use of body cameras and in-car video systems for the next 5 years. At least 50 officers and 20 police cars will be equipped with cameras at a time.

Other cities using these camera systems have found that they provide evidence for bringing criminals to justice. They also prevent officers from using excessive force because the officer will know they are on camera.

This is one of the many ways Detroit is proactively dealing with crime and working to make our city safer. The Council enthusiastically approved this contract and is proud to be a part of the project.

The use of in-car and body cameras was made possible by a \$1,000,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice that will be used to help fund half of the program for its first year. The City will provide the funds for the rest of the program and has full faith that it will be money well spent!





Project Green Light

PROJECT GREEN LIGHT DETROIT is the first public-private-community partnership of its kind, blending a mix of real-time crime-fighting and community policing aimed at improving neighborhood safety, promoting the revitalization and growth of local businesses, and strengthening DPD's efforts to deter, identify, and solve crime.

The Green Light partner gas stations install and maintain a number of high-definition (1080p) indoor and outdoor cameras. The stations all upgraded to high-speed network connections capable of allowing for consistent video

streaming from their cameras to DPD headquarters. They also have agreed to provide adequate lighting to all parts of their properties and to making other infrastructural improvements to ensure that their stations are customer-friendly, safe, and inviting.

As part of Project Green Light Detroit, DPD and the City have committed to devote staff to effectively receive, monitor, and analyze video feeds from Project Green Light Detroit Partners. DPD and the City have also made a longer-term commitment to develop a permanent state-of-the-art Real-Time Crime Center to be housed at Detroit Public Safety Headquarters.

BP — E. Outer Drive & Harper

Citgo — Schoolcraft & Greenfield

Fuel Zone — Fenkell & Evergreen

Marathon — E. Jefferson & Alter

Marathon — W McNichols & Wyoming

McDonald's – Grand River & Greydale McDonald's – Grand River at Livernois

McDonald's -Mack Avenue & I-75

McDonald's — W. Vernor Hwy. & Cavalry

Mike's Fresh Market -Gratiot & Lappin

Mike's Fresh Market — Livernois& Cambridge

Mobil — E. Jefferson & Alter

Mobil — E. Jefferson & St Aubin

Mobil — Fenkell & Greenfield

Mobil -

Grand River Ave. & Livernois

 $\label{eq:mobil-Joy Road & Evergreen} \begin{tabular}{ll} Mobil - Joy Road & \\ Evergreen \end{tabular}$

Palace Party Plaza — E. Jefferson & Meldrum

Perry's Liquor — E. Jefferson & Newport

Puritan Liquor – Puritan & Mansfield

San Diego Party Store— E. Jefferson& Algonquin

Shell— Mack & I-75

Shell—S. Fort & Schaefer

Starter's Bar & Grill — Plymouth Road & Faust

Sunoco — E. Seven Mile &

Hoover

Sunoco — Morang & Roxbury

Turkey Grill – Woodward & Melbourne

COMING SOON

Speedy Gas Station - 8820 Wyoming

McDonald's - 22021 W. 8 Mile Rd.

Mobil Gas Station - 1001 E. Warren Ave.

Mobil Gas Station - 10833 W 7 Mile Rd.

Hubbard Pharmacy & Liquor

McDonald's 15550 W. McNichols

McDonald's 13500 Linwood

McDonald's 1301 Springwells

McDonald's 8825 E. Jefferson

McDonald's 10400 Gratiot

McDonald's 9815 Grand River

RETURNING CITIZENS TASK FORCE

In the fall of 2015, Council Member at-Large Janee' Ayers passed a resolution which created the City of Detroit's Returning Citizens Task Force to meet the needs of a large population of Detroit residents who are challenged with successfully reintegrating back into the community after release from the corrections system. Rehabilitating, for the majority of those who have been incarcerated, has not been fully realized due to systemic barriers that returning citizens face upon their release. There is a lack of opportunity when it comes to jobs, housing, transportation, community support, and other aspects of daily life. Through community partnerships, legislative efforts and securing funding opportunities, the task force is developing into a powerful initiative.

The overarching goals of the Task Force are to create a community based "one-stop shop" that will serve as the main resource for returning citizens once they are released, and to develop comprehensive mapping of the organizations that self-identify as services for returning citizens. The City of Detroit is currently constructing a physical "one-stop" inside of the Michigan Department of Corrections Detroit Reentry Center located at the former Ryan correctional facility. Once released, we want to ensure that these individuals have a mechanism to stay engaged with these resources and that the Task Force will close any gaps in the support these returning citizens receive. Additionally, the Task Force has been working diligently to identify every group, small and large, who provides services to returning citizens so that we can create a stronger network and work as one community to move this issue forward. Working together we can reduce recidivism and prepare our citizens for a growing workforce.