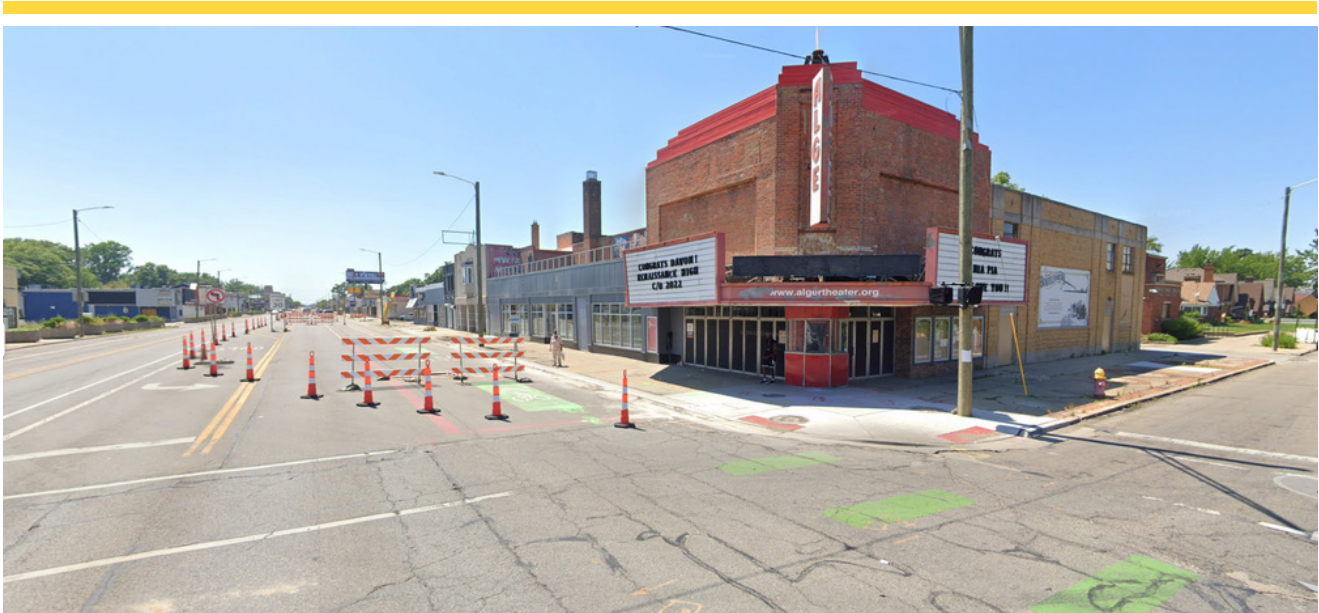




# MORNINGSIDER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF MORNINGSIDE



The Alger Theater continues to make forward progress towards reopening. Image courtesy of Google Street View

## Alger Theater Celebrates Progress in 2022

**Jackie Grant** | Contributing Writer

Detroit — Friends of the Alger Theater is proud of all that we were able to accomplish in 2022.

We brought the water line into the Alger Theater during the streetscape construction. There has not been water in the theater for 30+ years. Thank you Major Construction for giving us a wonderful quote and installing the water line. They were financially kind to us and will be a friend of the Alger Theater forever! Thank you Bryan Marshall for navigating this with us.

ADA compliance is very necessary for occupancy. We were able to have what is called an ADA lift (not an elevator) installed to be able to take our friends and neighbors from the ground level up to our amazing rooftop deck.

Story continued on page 4...

### OTHER STORIES INCLUDED:

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- Mack Avenue Upcoming Streetscape Project - 3
- New Year Tragedy - 5
- Water Shutoff Assistance - 7
- Ultraviolet @ JBL - 8
- Holiday Lights Contest '22 Winners - 9
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- Ascension - Healthy Nutrition Resolutions - 13
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Karen Maxey  
**(313) 319-2990**

## Next Chapter Books Extends Pop-Up Hours Through January

Sarah Williams | Contributing Writer



Next Chapter Books Pop-Up at the Alger Theater. Image courtesy of Jim West

The launch of Next Chapter Books at the Alger Theater has been a successful labor of love. As first-time small business owners, we are greatly encouraged by the support we've received toward our little dream. We're thankful to the Friends of the Alger, E. Warren Development Corporation and all of you who've come to say hello, browse books, shop locally, and recommend us to friends.

We're staying at the Alger through January, continuing to grow our business, and hearing from all of you. **We'll be open every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday this month from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.**

We're working to connect with the community and increase our customer base. We hope you'll help us! We're also using this time to explore opportunities for a permanent location with space for programming.

Many customers have shared their excitement and vision for a bookstore in the community, and we're eager to hear these ideas. It's our vision to create a literary space that invites, reflects, and inspires our neighbors. If you have yet to pop in, please do so. We'd love to meet you and hear your feedback on our collection. Our mini bookstore offers new and secondhand titles for all ages: adults, children, middle grades, and teens.

For more information, here's how you can reach us:

Website: [www.nextchapterbkstore.com](http://www.nextchapterbkstore.com)

Instagram: [nextchapterbooksdetroit](https://www.instagram.com/nextchapterbooksdetroit)

Facebook: [Next Chapter Books](https://www.facebook.com/NextChapterBooks)

## Another Business Corridor in MorningSide to Get a Facelift

Rachel Bush | Contributing Writer

The Eastside Community Network (ECN) launched the Mack Avenue Streetscape Plan project in 2022 to build on previous planning efforts with the goal to develop a community-preferred street design from Conner Street in Detroit to Moross Road in Grosse Pointe Farms. It will be created through a participatory planning process that involves the residents of Detroit and the Grosse Pointe communities over the next six months. The collective goal of the project is to unify Mack Avenue as a street that all residents enjoy and feel comfortable using, with a consistent, cohesive, and vibrant feel.

Specific streetscape improvements include:

- Improved sidewalks and safer crosswalks
- Additional street trees and landscaping
- Consistent, aesthetically appealing street furniture
- Public art and public spaces
- New street lighting
- Upgraded bus stops
- District identity signage and wayfinding signage



Mack Avenue Streetscape Plan – Project Study Area. Image courtesy of OHM Advisors

### Project Timeline

The project kicked off in June 2022 with a series of corridor tours to experience walking, driving, and infrastructure conditions along Mack Avenue. Engineers, landscape architects, planners, and graphic designers are working in tandem with ECN, a project Steering Committee, and residents to develop street design options that best address the issues along the corridor.

Story continues on page 6...

## Continued... Alger Theater Celebrates Progress in 2022

We have a contract and the funds to install an ADA-compliant restroom and a poured concrete floor on the ground level that will service our storefronts. We had hoped that would have been done by the end of 2022 but, the lift project brought us literally to the end of 2022.

We also invited Next Chapter Books into one of our retail spaces for the months of December and January as a popup. I hope everyone has welcomed them to our neighborhood, and we are hoping they will find a permanent home on our East Warren corridor. Please support Sarah and Jay so that we can keep them here with us.



**A customer reads a book inside the Next Chapter Books Pop-Up. Image courtesy of Next Chapter Books**

For the second year, we assisted our friends and neighbors in completing the HOPE application to assist them with their Detroit property taxes. We are a partner with Rocket Community Fund and were funded for this work. We also were funded by Rocket to participate in the Neighbor to Neighbor Program, which was phone canvassing from October to December. We made over 20,000 calls to residents in our east side neighborhoods to find out their needs, such as repairs on their homes, connectivity needs, creating generational wealth, and more. The response will direct Rocket Community Fund to create and fund programs to help stabilize families in their homes.

Looking forward to 2023, getting a new roof will be our main priority. It will be a heavy lift, with a price tag of \$200,000, so we will be rolling out a fundraising effort soon.



**Raising the funds to cover the roof replacement at the Alger Theater will be a major priority for 2023. Image courtesy of Alger Theater**

Like all nonprofits, we're always looking for volunteers, especially people who can help post messages on our marquee. Community messages are currently the only stream of income for the Alger Theater. We encourage you to join us in this effort to bring back a community space for movies and performances. You can reach me at [president@algertheater.org](mailto:president@algertheater.org) or give me a call or text at (313) 720-3904.

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*Jackie Grant is the President of the board of Friends of the Alger Theater*

## New Year Tragedy

Eric Dueweke | The Morningsider

On New Year's Day, our neighborhood received some unwanted attention from local media outlets. As some may have heard, at 1:42 am a young man was killed at a New Year's Eve party on East Warren. The shooting incident took place at the Royalty Dance Studio. Two others were wounded by gunfire that came from a vehicle. Detroit Police Department detectives are working on this active case and further details are not available, other than that this was a targeted--not random--crime.

Thanks to quick action from Councilmember Johnson and other City employees, the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department (BSEED) has informed the property owner that the building may no longer be used as a rental hall.

As it turns out, BSEED had mailed a Correction Order to the owner back in April, 2022 which stated: "Discontinue use of this property as RENTAL HALL. No permit has been issued for the present use of this property." In other words, the building can continue as a dance studio, but not be rented out for parties or other events.

This tragic situation shines a spotlight on a significant issue. It's very difficult for concerned residents to find accurate information on City of Detroit enforcement of building code and other violations. The relatively new operator of Royalty Dance Studio may not even have known that her landlord had received a violation notice. If neighbors on East Warren or Audubon had been able to discover that Rental Hall activities at that location were in fact illegal, they might have requested an earlier crackdown by BSEED or DPD. Several rental parties have taken place there since last April.

Along with other neighborhood activists, I am committed to advocating for better and more transparent systems within our city and county government agencies. Many residents are willing to use the power of the internet to research and report violations of the law.

Some may say that citizens should stay out of the business of helping government. I have personally been accused of being a "nosy neighbor." My response is that we need more, not less, nosy neighbors! Only with the full support of society can our systems work effectively.



**Bullet holes riddle the windows at Royalty Dance Studio. Image courtesy of Nicolas Hall**

Next month I will return to discussing "Housing Matters" such as property tax foreclosures and the Detroit Land Bank. If there's a housing question or issue you'd like to see discussed, please contact me at [ericdue@umich.edu](mailto:ericdue@umich.edu).

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*Eric Dueweke, President of the MorningSide Community Organization*

## Continued... Another Business Corridor in MorningSide to Get a Facelift

In December 2022, the project team launched the community engagement phase of the project to hear thoughts and ideas from residents, business owners, and local leaders about the future of the corridor.

The next few months are centered around meeting with and collecting feedback from the community to inform the next phase of the project, design concept development, with the goal to complete the Streetscape Planning study by July 2023 and initiate construction in 2025.

Read on to see how you can be involved!

Take the survey here!

<https://ohmplanning.typeform.com/to/Ud2TAL3g>

Or scan the QR code!



Attend a Meeting!

[Town Hall Meeting 1](#)

Tuesday, January 10th from 6 – 7:30 PM

Mack Market: 14711 Mack Avenue Detroit, MI 48215

[Cornerstone Village Association meeting](#)

Saturday, January 21, 2023 at 10am

Love Rising Church 21230 Moross Rd., Detroit, MI 48236

We want to attend your block club, neighborhood association, business association, or other community meeting! Email [sommer@woodswattseffect.com](mailto:sommer@woodswattseffect.com) if you'd like the project team to attend an upcoming meeting.

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*Rachel Bush is a Planner at OHM Advisors, a local urban planning and design firm.*

# Water Shutoffs Loom Again, But Help is Here

Vaughn Arrington | Contributing Writer

Remember the Ying Yang Twins' "The Whisper Song"? It was in my head as I thought about the moratorium on water shutoffs being lifted and well, listen up... (read this as if I was whispering)

*Hey MorningSide  
 Let me whisper in your ear  
 Tell you a lil' somethin' you might like to hear  
 The moratorium got lifted & water shut offs are near  
 But the Lifeline Plan will put you in the clear*

I want you to take your eyes and look down below  
 Down there you'll find some sign up info  
 But before you go I have another gem in store  
 Job opportunities goin' door to door  
 You can call me at this number but text is best  
 \$17 an hour, with a schedule that flex  
 Hopefully this message relieves your stress  
 Any further questions please gimme a text

DWSD, Wayne Metro, and Human Fliers are waiting to help you...

Vaughn (313) 610-1155  
 Vaughn@HumanFliers.com  
 IG: TheCommunityWhisperer  
 FB: Vaughn Arrington

*Vaughn Arrington is a MorningSide resident and CEO of Human Fliers, a grassroots marketing firm that has been going door-to-door to publicize the DWSD Lifeline Plan*

*\*The Whisper Song by The Ying Yang Twins contains explicit language. We encourage you to reference the censored version.*



Human Fliers CEO, Vaughn Arrington. Image courtesy of Vaughn Arrington

## DWSD Lifeline Plan

Detroit's **FIRST-EVER** water affordability plan

Developed in partnership with community advocates and water affordability experts, the new Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) Lifeline Plan is an income-based water affordability plan. It offers qualifying customers a fixed monthly rate that will significantly reduce their monthly bill – and erase any past debt.

**Water bill debt GETS ERASED!**

Here's how it works.

Income-eligible enrolled Detroiters receive up to 4,500 gallons of water every month at a fixed rate. Average Detroit household (3 people) uses between 2,500 to 3,000 gallons per month.

\$18

Your monthly water, sewer & drainage bill if household income is at or below 135% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL)

\$43

Your monthly water, sewer & drainage bill if household income is above 135% of FPL but at or below 150% of FPL

\$56

Your monthly water, sewer & drainage bill if household income is above 150% of FPL but at or below 200% of FPL

That's 1.8% of the average monthly household income for each tier – a standard set by community advocates and water affordability experts. If water usage exceeds 4,500 gallons per month, you'll be charged for that additional usage based on DWSD's new inclining block rate structure.

**APPLY NOW AT:**

[waynemetrometro.org/DWSDLifeline](http://waynemetrometro.org/DWSDLifeline) or call 313-386-9727

The program is funded by regional, state and federal dollars.

**TAKE PART: Tap Into the Lifeline Plan**

DWSD Lifeline Flyer Plan. Image courtesy of DWSD

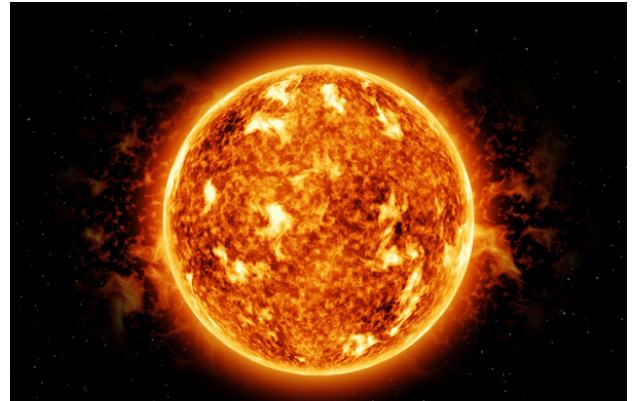
## Explore Ultra-Violet at the Jefferson Branch Library

Megan Summers | Contributing Writer

Learn about the benefits and dangers of ultraviolet (UV) rays by making your own UV Kid with special light-sensitive beads. Use sunscreen, foil, paper, and more to test materials that might protect your UV Kid from being exposed to too much UV radiation.

Join us for STEM Saturday at 2 p.m. on January 21 at the Jefferson Branch Library!

This program is made possible by the NASA @ My Library program, offered by The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). It is designed for school-aged children, tweens up to 13, and families. It is not suitable for children three and younger.



The Sun in ultraviolet light. Image courtesy of NASA

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*Megan Summers is a Librarian II at the Jefferson Branch Library*

## Let's Talk Trash

The Morningsider

If you still have lawn bags on the curb, you might as well put them away somewhere until the spring. Sorry, yard waste pickup ended December 23.

Here are your next three bulk trash and recycling pickup dates:

Thursday, January 19  
Thursday February 2 and 16



A pile of charred rubbish on Haverhill St. Image courtesy of Jeffrey D. Lewis II



## Announcing the Winners of our 2022 Holiday Lights Contest

Nicolas Hall | The Morningsider

The MorningSide Holiday Lights Contest returned for a second year this winter.

What better way to inspire more neighbors to decorate their homes than having competitive fun with prizes and bragging rights on the line!

The details of the contest remained largely the same as last year, with the addition of one new category: Best Block.

Starting with our November membership meeting, we received over 30 nominations, with many houses and blocks receiving multiple nominations. Five volunteer judges considered criteria like creativity, design, radiance, and location.

With so many great nominations, it was difficult to whittle down the list, but whittle we did.

(drum-roll please)

The winners of the 2022 Morningside Holiday Lights Contest are —

**1st place: 5527 Buckingham**

First place of our Holiday Lights Contest goes to reigning champion Nicole Bryant. Last year, Nicole took home the big prize for 5818 Beaconsfield. In 2022, she moved to her “forever home” a few blocks away at 5527 Buckingham, and her décor didn’t miss a step. Nicole created a holiday wonderland — reindeer, elves, candy canes, angels, and even a few Santas!



Holiday Lights Contest 1st Place Winner, 5527 Buckingham. Image courtesy of Nicolas Hall

Story continues on page 12...

## District 4 Councilmember Looks Back at a Productive 2022

**Councilmember Latisha Johnson | Contributing Writer**

As 2022 comes to an end, I wanted to thank you for the support that you have given to my team and me. With your help we have achieved a lot in our first year in office, including:

- \$15/hour minimum pay rate for all city jobs
- Budget approval for a citywide Master Plan Update (\$2 million) and improvements to Sasser Playground (\$500,000).
- Establishment of Taskforces: Equitable Development - working to streamline processes to support small developers working within Detroit neighborhoods, and Small Business Taskforce - working to increase small business opportunities with city of Detroit contract opportunities.
- Hosted two Vendor Procurement Fairs at WCCCD - Eastern campus, which assisted minority and local vendors in doing business with the City of Detroit.
- \$203 Million Affordable Housing plan, which includes.
  1. Detroit Land Bank affordable home program (\$3M in ARPA funds) This initiative will work with non-profit organizations to provide city subsidies to assist in rehabbing up to 50 Detroit Land Bank Authority (DLBA)-owned homes. The properties will initially be offered as rentals at deeply affordable rates (50%-60% of the area median income (AM) and will create opportunities for the renter to buy the property and become a homeowner.
  2. Self-sufficiency support for those facing rising rents (\$10 million in ARPA funds) This initiative combats rent increases caused by the increased demand for housing in the city. The City of Detroit's Detroit at Work program will help residents through immediate placement in good-paying jobs or in "earn to learn" programs, including literacy and GED programs to increase employability rates of Detroit residents. The program provides rental subsidies as residents work through the various programs.
- Led Property Tax Foreclosure Prevention Initiative which threatened over 1,700 District 4 families with the loss of their homes.
- Began discussions with the EPA- Environmental Protection Agency to discuss environmental protections for our community.
- Keynote speaker at Eastside Community Network's (ECN's) Sustainability Fellowship event
- Established multiple forums to provide support and hear your concerns and ideas.
  - o Coffee Hours
  - o Monthly Community Meetings
  - o Visits to senior buildings
  - o School visits
- Worked with WSU Urban Planning students and residents to develop an Eden Gardens planning study
- Fire Safety canvassing with the Detroit Fire Department (smoke detector/carbon monoxide giveaway)



**District 4 Councilmember Latisha Johnson.**  
Image courtesy of Latisha Johnson

Thank you all for supporting our efforts to improve the lives of District 4 residents and all Detroiters. My team and I look forward to working with you in 2023!

## Recap of '22 Holiday Celebration Party

Jeffrey D. Lewis II | The Morningsider

Christmas carols, gift giveaways, and the sweet smell of delicious food filled the air during our Holiday Celebration Party on December 13, 2022 at Bethany Lutheran Church.

The celebration was emceed by former MCO board member Rakisha Odom. We had a great turnout from our community as members gathered to reflect on the strides MorningSide continues to make, as well as the personal goals many of our neighbors have set for 2023.

A special thanks goes out to MCO board members Sharon Gray and Twiana Odom, as well as Associate Editor of The Morningsider, Susan Newell. These three amazing ladies worked together to decorate, prepare and serve the food.

Overall, the evening was amazing! It was another example of the greatness our MorningSide community continues to exemplify.



2022 Holiday Celebration Party at Bethany Lutheran Church. Image courtesy of Jeffrey D. Lewis II

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*Jeffrey D. Lewis II, Editor in Chief of The Morningsider, 2nd VP of MCO, Owner of Morningside Cafe*

## Give A Smile, Get A Smile

Elena Fracassa | The Morningsider

11-year-old Jude Kofie had never had a piano lesson, but what he did have is a gift for playing. So when a stranger heard him play and found out his family couldn't afford it, he surprised Jude with a \$15,000 grand piano. The story of this amazing little boy and the gift given to him by local piano tuner, Bill Magnussen, is one of hope and inspiration. <https://fb.watch/hVgEhmE1tv/>

Jude, who has autism, sees his life as a miracle. He now has his own YouTube channel with close to 12,000 followers! <https://www.youtube.com/@judekeyzofficial1449>



11-year-old Jude Kofie plays the keyboard. Image courtesy of CBS Evening News

May the New Year bring all of us a fresh start and the ability to see the miracles in our own lives and in the world around us.

## Continued... Announcing the Winners of our 2022 Holiday Lights Contest

### 2nd Place: 13124 E Outer Drive

In second place, we have the head-turner at 13124 E Outer Drive, by Bill and Laura Ridella. The Ridellas have lived on Outer Drive for almost 25 years, and every year their house (and trees!) are beautifully adorned with holiday lights and ornaments.



13124 E. Outer Drive. Image courtesy of Nicolas Hall

### 3rd Place: 4835 Devonshire

Coming in third, we have 4835 Devonshire, a playfully lit house by the Colvin family. The Colvins' have been in the neighborhood since 2019, and what a welcome addition. Their residence radiated holiday fun!



4835 Devonshire. Image courtesy of Nicolas Hall

### Best Block: 4300 Bedford

For Best Block, judges mostly considered the number of decorated houses. And the 4300 block of Bedford had A LOT of them. From Waveney to Munich, the block was a colorful oasis, a special stretch of MorningSide with bright lights and holiday cheer.



4300 Block of Bedford. Image courtesy of Nicolas Hall

Thanks to everyone who sent in a nomination and participated in the contest. Let's do it again in 2023!

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*Nicolas Hall, At- Large MCO Board Member, works for the Blue Oval Company and loves to ride his bike throughout MorningSide*



January 2023

## Healthy Nutrition Resolutions for the New Year

Often we make lofty resolutions about nutrition and health that are difficult to keep, such as avoiding favorite “junk” foods, losing a lot of weight, exercising daily, and the list goes on. Why not try making small achievable nutrition and healthy lifestyle goals, one for each month of the year, to start you off on the right track. To be the most successful, the goal should be something that you want to do, and not something someone else wants you to do.

Here is an example of a healthy nutrition and lifestyle goal calendar:

**January** — Eat at the table with your family two or three nights a week. Research shows people eat smaller amounts and healthier foods when eating together at the table, and children who eat with their parents are less likely to drink, smoke or use drugs. If you live by yourself, decorate the table and enjoy your meal.

**February** — Eat less saturated fat found in meat by starting a tradition of meatless Mondays twice a month.

**March** — March is National Nutrition Month, so why not use healthy MyPlate ideas at dinner three times a week. For more information go to [choosemyplate.gov](http://choosemyplate.gov).

**April** — Start an indoor herb garden. Grow basil, rosemary, cilantro or your favorite herb to use in your recipes.

**May** — Go for a 10-15 minute walk three times a week. Aim for 30 minutes, five times a week, but start small and build from there.

**June** — Drink one more 8-ounce glass of water each day.

**July** — Add one more vegetable serving into your meal plan each day. See if you can eat through the a rainbow of vegetable colors.

**August** — Try a new fruit once a week. Check out your local farmer’s market or grocery store produce department.

**September** — Turn off the TV and computer, and put down the phone while you eat dinner five times a week.

**October** — Cut back on sodium four days a week by substituting a processed food item, such as packaged rice mix, with brown rice seasoned with spices or herbs from your herb garden.

**November** — Try a new healthy recipe one day each week.

**December** — Sit less. For every 30 minutes you sit, take a two-minute fitness break, and do something active.

If you already follow these healthy practices then personalize the calendar to meet your needs. Each one of us has our own unique health goals that we can achieve when we have a plan.

Ascension Community Wellness offers a variety of online classes, lectures and programs at no charge to the community. To learn more about our classes, please visit [healthcare.ascension.org/events](http://healthcare.ascension.org/events) or call (248) 849-5752.

## Resources & Upcoming Events

Presented by The Morningsider

### It's Your Budget – Take Part!

#### PUBLIC MEETING & ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

OFFICE OF BUDGET · CITY OF DETROIT · [www.detroitmi.gov/budget](http://www.detroitmi.gov/budget)

The Budget Office held nine public meetings throughout October 2022. This flyer summarizes what was presented in those meetings. If you would like to learn more, please visit our website at [detroitmi.gov/budget](http://detroitmi.gov/budget)

The General Fund is the only fund in the City's budget with flexibility in how the money can be spent. The discretionary money in the General Fund is what was discussed in the public meetings. The General Fund is made up of 3 different spending categories:

- Wages & Benefits** – 54% of the General Fund goes towards supporting City employees
- Debt & Pensions** – 16% represents prior investments the City is obligated to pay off over time
- Everything Else** – 30% of the fund goes to support essential city services and has some flexibility in how this money can be spent

**FY23 Adopted Budget - General Fund (\$1.2 billion)**

#### Where does the General Fund money come from?

General Fund money comes from 5 major revenue sources:

- Income tax
- State revenue sharing
- Wagering tax
- Property tax
- Utility users tax

#### How does the City spend its money on each priority outcome?

The City categorizes how it spends General Fund money into 5 outcomes:

- Efficient & Innovative Operations – 44%
- Safer Neighborhoods – 35%
- Economic Equity & Opportunity – 10%
- Effective Governance – 5%
- Vibrant & Beautiful City – 4%
- Not Yet Classified (Rainy Day Fund) – 3%

#### What else should I know about the budget?

- The City of Detroit brings in millions of dollars every year in grant revenue to supplement the budget
- Schools, libraries, and state or county services are not funded through the City of Detroit's budget but through separate sources

## CONNECT 313 & THE STOU DAMIRE

Connecting Detroiters & Nurturing Innovation

**4401 Conner St., Detroit, MI 48215**

EVERY TUESDAY | 11am - 4pm

FREE Computer Class  
Everything from tech basics to advance!

Register at [bit.ly/connect313](https://bit.ly/connect313) or scan the QR Code

For questions, contact Will Morgan, Community Ambassador, at (313) 571-2800

### PUBLIC MEETING & ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

The Budget Office held nine public meetings throughout October 2022. This flyer summarizes public comments shared verbally or via the chat feature in Zoom. Additional information on public comments will be shared in the Community Outreach Report published in March.

#### TOP CATEGORIES CITYWIDE

- Beautification
- Neighborhood Infrastructure, Design & Transportation
- Housing
- Government Accountability
- Economic Supports

#### TOP PRIORITIES CITYWIDE

Number of comments related to each priority

Home repair	14
Code enforcement	10
Alley cleanup	10
Transportation	9
Streetlights	8
Senior supports	8
Litter cleanup	8
Illegal dumping	8
Affordable housing	8

#### TOP PRIORITIES BY DISTRICT

DISTRICT 1	DISTRICT 2	DISTRICT 3	DISTRICT 4	DISTRICT 5	DISTRICT 6	DISTRICT 7
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beautification</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beautification</li> <li>Neighborhood Infrastructure, Design &amp; Transportation</li> <li>Housing</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beautification</li> <li>Economic Opportunity Programs</li> <li>Neighborhood Infrastructure, Design &amp; Transportation</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Neighborhood Infrastructure, Design &amp; Transportation</li> <li>Government Accountability</li> <li>Housing</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beautification</li> <li>Economic Supports</li> <li>Housing</li> <li>Neighborhood Infrastructure, Design &amp; Transportation</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beautification</li> <li>Housing</li> <li>Neighborhood Infrastructure, Design &amp; Transportation</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beautification</li> <li>Housing</li> <li>Economic Supports</li> </ol>
<b>EXAMPLES</b>						
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>abandoned homes</li> <li>litter cleanup</li> <li>street cleaning</li> <li>tree removal/trimming</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>alley cleanup</li> <li>streetlights</li> <li>home repair</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>eliminate blight</li> <li>youth programs</li> <li>community group funding</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>transportation</li> <li>community engagement</li> <li>home repair</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>alley cleanup</li> <li>small business support</li> <li>land bank reform</li> <li>community group funding</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>litter cleanup</li> <li>expanded affordable housing</li> <li>neighborhood rebuilding</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>tree removal/trimming</li> <li>rental supports</li> <li>disability supports</li> </ol>

We got this on lock  
Come unlock  
your potential

Vault to Success  
Teen Advisory Council  
Game & Movie Nights  
Credit Recovery Support  
Grill & Chill  
Wellness Hub

If you are interested in these programs and more complete the form below!



## Resources & Upcoming Events

Presented by The Morningsider



**ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT HOUSING & RACIAL JUSTICE? AND LOOKING TO MAKE EXTRA MONEY?**

**JOIN OUR TEAM AS A COMMUNITY ADVOCATE**



**SEE COMPLETE JOB DESCRIPTION: [BITLY.WS/XMTP](https://bit.ly/ws/xmtp)**

WAYNE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

### LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLD WATER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**LIHWAP BENEFITS:**

- UP TO \$1500** in direct payment assistance for household accounts in arrears or disconnect status
- Assistance with reconnection fees when services have been disconnected
- A LIHWAP payment will guarantee service for at least 90 days after receipt of payment.

**CLIENT ELIGIBILITY:**

Qualified account holders must:

- Be a residential account
- Be in arrears or disconnect status
- Be under 150% Federal Poverty Limit and/or actively receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Food Assistance Program/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (FAP/SNAP), State Emergency Relief (SER), Social Security Supplemental Income (SSI)
- Your municipality must opt in the program to qualify

Number of Household Members	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Income Limit (\$)	20,385	27,465	34,545	41,625	48,705	55,785	62,865	69,945	74,665	74,665

**CALL 313-386-9727**  
 or scan this code to apply today!  
[www.WayneMetro.org/Programs](http://www.WayneMetro.org/Programs)



### Mack Avenue Streetscape Plan

The Eastside Community Network is developing a plan for the future of Mack Avenue. We want to hear from you about your vision for the next version of Mack!

**Help us design Mack Avenue**

Additionally, learn more about a boutique hotel that will be located on Alter Rd. and Mack Ave.

**When:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023  
**Time:** 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM  
**Where:** 14711 Mack Ave. Detroit, MI 48215

*\*\*Light refreshments will be served\*\**

Questions or comments can be directed to [equity@woodswaterthelocal.com](mailto:equity@woodswaterthelocal.com)  
 To learn more about the project visit [www.ecn-detroit.org](http://www.ecn-detroit.org)



Scan the code to fill out our 2 minute online survey and share your thoughts.



# MorningSide's Finest

NICHOLAS RILEY

As my husband and I headed to a friend's house in Cornerstone on Christmas Day, we noticed a ladder under a blank marquee at the Alger Theater. On our way home that afternoon, the ladder was gone, but there were new messages on both sides of the marquee. Who on earth would be willing to come out on Christmas Day to put up signage on the Alger? I wondered. Whoever it was definitely deserves a shout-out.

Turns out that dedicated volunteer and good neighbor was Nicholas Riley, who lives with his wife Kim and 3-month-old son Genaro on Berkshire near Mack. They moved to MorningSide from Hamtramck early in the pandemic and eventually met almost all the neighbors on their "awesome block," but they hadn't yet gotten involved in the larger community.

That changed several months ago when Nicholas (who also goes by Nick) struck up a conversation at Alma's Kitchen on Mack with a board member of Friends of the Alger Theater. Nicholas had always admired the architecture of the Alger, and during the course of the conversation he found himself volunteering to help with "whatever needs to be done" at the Alger. "It was one of the few decisions I've made after a few beers that I didn't regret the next day," he jokes. He's now in a regular rotation with two other volunteers to keep the Alger marquee up to date. They're looking to recruit two more.

Nick has worked in a variety of settings, including the Mercury Bar in Corktown, where he met co-worker Kim (now his wife), and in a program for people with developmental disabilities. Now his job is being a stay-at-home dad while his wife teaches at a Detroit charter school. Kim says he's the perfect dad. "I tell him he was born to be a mother," she says with a laugh.

Nicholas says it was his son who motivated him to join the effort to re-open the Alger Theater. "I imagine taking him to movies at the Alger someday. I'm doing this for him."



Nicholas Riley. Image courtesy of Susan Newell



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\$400 Half Page  
\$275 Quarter Page

**Monthly Run**

\$150 Full Page  
\$80 Half Page  
\$60 Quarter Page



For the latest news taking place in MorningSide, please follow us on:



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MorningSide is a corporation organized and operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes outlined in section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Contact The Morningside Community Organization at:

**(313) 355-2468** or via email:

[morningsidecommunity2@gmail.com](mailto:morningsidecommunity2@gmail.com)

Also checkout our website!

[www.morningsidedetroit.org](http://www.morningsidedetroit.org)

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