

Your Wayne County Commissioner...

Fall 2021

Martha G. Scott

Proudly serving Detroit • Hamtramck • Highland Park

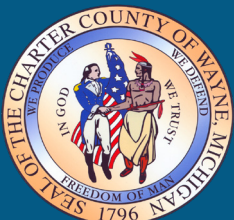


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Budget brings good news for residents

There is good news for Wayne County – and District 3 – as we enter a new budget year.

Along with my fellow county commissioners, I was happy to approve a balanced budget for 2021-22. This marks the seventh straight balanced budget for Wayne County and it is another sign that the financial hardships we faced just a few years ago are now fully behind us.

The new budget will allow us to continue, and in some cases improve, all the programs and services county residents deserve, from road repairs to parks and beyond.

In more good news, the county is awaiting additional money for roads and infrastructure repairs through President Biden's administration.

The county is also continuing its Pay As You Stay program and other programs designed to help homeowners facing foreclosure. More information on avoiding foreclosure is available on Page 4.

In another project of special interest to District 3 residents, the Wayne County Commission has contributed \$850,000 to an estimated \$2.6 million restoration project for Hamtramck Stadium, one of only five remaining ballparks from baseball's Negro Leagues.

With additional financing from the Detroit Tigers Foundation, other major charitable organizations and the federal government, this historic site will become a "field of dreams" for generations to come.

Despite all this good news, the fight against COVID-19 continues with potentially deadly variants now spreading.

With that in mind, I encourage everyone to protect themselves and others by getting vaccinated, wearing a mask when recommended and continuing to follow common sense health recommendations from county health officials. More information is available through the COVID-19 section of the Wayne County website, www.waynecounty.com.

If you have any questions or concerns about county issues, feel free to contact my office. You can do so at msscott2@waynecounty.com or by calling (313) 224-0878.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Martha G. Scott". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Martha G. Scott
Wayne County Commissioner

Baseball is back!

Historic Hamtramck Stadium will come alive again very soon



Commissioner Scott addresses attendees at the groundbreaking ceremony at historic Hamtramck Stadium.



Commissioner Scott is joined by (left to right) Detroit Tigers CEO Christopher Ilitch, County Executive Warren C. Evans, Commission Chair Alisha Bell and youth baseball player Anthony Cartwright at Hamtramck Stadium.



It was a great day for Hamtramck and all of metro Detroit Aug. 3 with groundbreaking on renovations to historic Hamtramck Stadium, one of only five remaining ballparks from baseball's Negro Leagues.

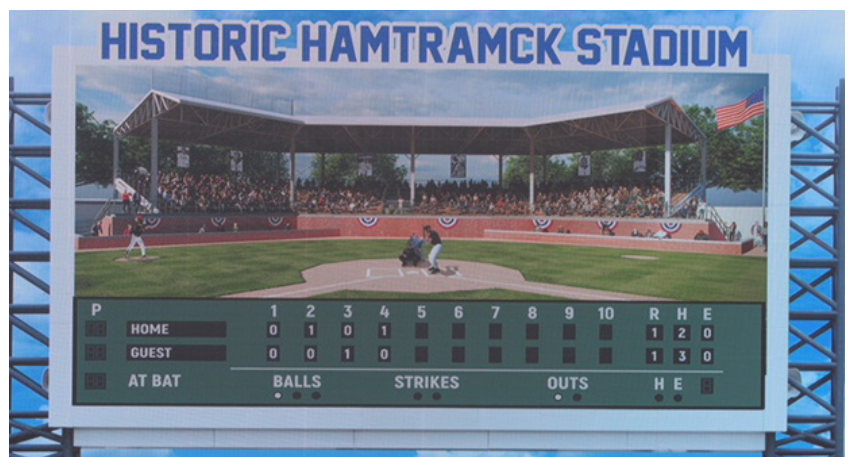
"The renovation of this historic stadium is a major event for Hamtramck and I'm thrilled to see it happen," said Wayne County Commissioner Martha G. Scott, whose district includes the stadium. "Not only is the stadium a part of history, but it will now be an important part of the future of the city and our region."

The Wayne County Commission approved \$850,000 in allocated funding from county Executive Warren C. Evans and the Commission as part of the estimated \$2.6 million project, which also includes financing from the Detroit Tigers Foundation, the Ralph C. Wilson Foundation, the Kresge Foundation, the Friends of Historic Hamtramck Stadium, the Michigan Municipal League Foundation, the Hamtramck Parks Conservancy and an African American Civil Rights grant administered by the National Park Service.

"Having all these public and private organizations come together shows just how important this project is," Commissioner Scott said.

The stadium, which opened in 1930, was home to the Detroit Stars and Norman (Turkey) Stearnes, a Negro League superstar and member of the National Baseball Hall of Fame. The stadium's field is named in his honor. Other Hall of Fame members, including legendary pitcher Leroy (Satchel) Page and home run champion Josh Gibson also played at the stadium, located in the city's Veterans Park.

As planned, the stadium will be the site of local, regional and national events, including youth league tournaments, travel team baseball and 19th century-style Base Ball games, played in vintage uniforms and without gloves.





Commissioner Scott (above) was front and center during the ribbon-cutting ceremony of the new fitness court in Highland Park. Priority Health (right) partnered with organizations to help fund the site.



Commissioner Scott leads new fitness court opening

Commissioner Martha G. Scott was joined by Wayne County Executive Warren C. Evans, Highland Park Mayor Hubert Yopp, county and city officials and residents July 21 to unveil the new fitness court located on the grounds of the former Midland School in Highland Park.

The \$140,000 fitness area came as a result of the partnership between Wayne County, Priority Health and the National Fitness Campaign. This vision was able to come to pass through grants and combined millage funding from Commissioner Scott's Fiscal Year 18-19 budget allocation of \$50,000; \$80,000 in funding from the Wayne County Parks fund; \$2,000 from the city of Highland Park; and \$8,000 from Priority Health.

"I am just grateful for the commitment from County Executive Evans, Priority Health, the National Fitness campaign, Mayor Yopp, Highland Park city council members and other community partners that made this project possible," Commissioner Scott said. "This project shows what can happen when all the stakeholders work together for the betterment of our community."

The fitness court is open to the public and is located at Midland and Second, right behind the Ernest T. Ford Recreation Center.

Wayne County's response to COVID-19

Under the direction of Wayne County Executive Warren C. Evans, Wayne County immediately went to work at the onset of the pandemic by providing essential public health services to help slow the spread of the virus.

Partnering with health care providers like Garden City Hospital early during the pandemic, the county made testing more readily accessible to residents and employees and has helped administer more than 75,000 no-cost COVID-19 tests.

"We are in this battle together fighting COVID," Commissioner Martha G. Scott said, "and we will keep fighting and providing for our residents until this pandemic is behind us."

Knowing that personal protection equipment (PPE) is crucial to combating the virus, the county has provided to residents more than three million face masks (including 186,000 to children).

The county has also distributed PPE for first responders in all 43 Wayne County jurisdictions. PPE, including face masks and shields, disposable gloves, plastic gowns, hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes, has also been provided for municipal employees, long term care facilities and funeral

homes.

The day after receiving its first shipment of COVID-19 vaccine in December 2020, the Wayne County Health Department started administering vaccines with an initial focus on health care workers, first responders, teachers and seniors. To date, 66.7 percent of eligible Wayne County residents (excluding Detroit) have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine—more than 7 percent above the state of Michigan total.

While directly responding to the virus, County Executive Evans also ensured county government remained fiscally responsible, and leveraged federal and state aid to assist residents, small businesses, and non-profits in financial need.

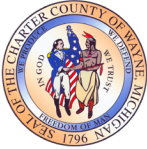
As the virus (especially the Delta variant) continues to threaten the health and safety of residents, Wayne County remains vigilant. COVID-19 vaccines are safe and the most effective way to end this pandemic. Vaccine clinics are located all across Wayne County – no appointment is necessary, and vaccines are no-cost to residents.

To locate a vaccine clinic near you, visit <http://waynecounty.com> or call 1-866-610-3885 to schedule a no-cost appointment.



Martha G. Scott

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Wayne County Commissioner Martha G. Scott

2021-2022 Committee Assignments

Wayne County Commission

Committee of the Whole

Chair, Committee on Seniors & Veterans Affairs

Vice Chair, Committee on Public Safety
& Homeland Security

Committee on Ways and Means

Task Force on the 100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage

*All Wayne County Commission meetings open to the public.
Please visit waynecounty.com for dates, times and locations.*

A message from the Wayne County Treasurer's Office



Dear Fellow Taxpayers:

As your Wayne County Treasurer, it is my honor and privilege to serve you. Please be advised that to be compliant with Michigan law, starting next year, the final date to enter into a payment plan will be **March 14, 2022**, and the last day to pay your forfeited taxes to the Wayne County Treasurer's Office will be **March 31, 2022**. Our office will begin offering the payment plans for 2019 and prior years' delinquent taxes in July 2021 instead of October as we have in the past.

Eric R. Sabree

ERIC R. SABREE
Wayne County Treasurer

Property tax payment plans are available now!

Interest Reduction Stipulated Payment Agreement (IRSPA)

This payment plan reduces the interest rate from 18% to 6% for eligible taxpayers. To sign up, you must own and live in your home, and have a Principal Residence Exemption (PRE) and ID that proves residency.

Distressed Owner Occupant Extension (DOOE)

This program is not available to everyone. If you own and live in the property, and are suffering financial hardship you may qualify for this program. Proof of ownership, occupancy, and hardship are required.

Stipulated Payment Agreement (SPA)

Available to everybody, this plan allows a taxpayer to pay taxes pursuant to a payment schedule. The plan will avoid foreclosure provided that payments are submitted per the agreed upon schedule.

Pay As You Stay Payment Agreement (PAYSPA)

Only for those who have first applied for their local municipality's Poverty Tax Exemption (PTE) and received an approval. Once notified by your local Assessor's office and deemed eligible, our office will mail you a notification letter with your Reduced Amount Due. You will have the option of paying a lump sum (additional 10% off) or enrolling into a PAYSPA.

Stay safe. Save time.

Make your appointment online!
treasurer.waynecounty.com

The final date to enter into a payment plan will be **March 14, 2022**, and the last day to pay your forfeited taxes will be **March 31, 2022**.

For more information email WCTOPaymentPlans@waynecounty.com or call (313) 224-5990.