



## Board of Police Commissioners

Detroit Public Safety Headquarters | 1301 Third Street Suite 767 | Detroit, Michigan 48226  
313-596-1830 | [www.detroitmi.gov/bopc](http://www.detroitmi.gov/bopc)

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June 20, 2022

Honorable Council President Mary Sheffield  
Detroit City Council  
2 Woodward Avenue  
Detroit, Michigan 48226

**RE: BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS SUPPORT CONTRACT RENEWAL OF SHOTSPOTTER TECHNOLOGY SYSTEM TO PREVENT AND DETER VIOLENT CRIME**

Dear Honorable Council President Sheffield:

The Board of Police Commissioners ('Board') recently voted to support the contract renewal of the Detroit Police Department's ShotSpotter Technology Program on Thursday, June 9, 2022, during the Board's regular Monthly Community Meeting.

The Board's majority vote expressed continued support for technology that swiftly detects gunshots and allows for DPD to provide immediate response and attention to remove violent offenders from the streets. The Board continues to monitor and evaluate the Department's technology system use. Since the ShotSpotter pilot, no violations of Department policy or violations of constitutional protections or civil liberties have been identified.

The Board has received constructive feedback from the Eighth and Ninth Precinct communities regarding the use of the technology, noting that neighborhoods prefer the technology to help address and resolve gun violence and crimes in the City of Detroit.

The Board recently learned of an incident where offenders were recreationally firing weapons in their yard that resulted in bullets penetrating a home's exterior in the 20000 block of Goldburn and fatally striking an 11-year-old child. No calls were made during the first round of shots recklessly fired into the home. In this tragedy and other senseless gun violence, SpotShotter is an important tool for police and public safety.

While the Board continues to support the Department in its efforts toward safety, constitutionally, and effectively leveraging and utilizing 21<sup>st</sup> Century technology to prevent and deter violent crime and save lives in the City of Detroit, the Board still holds the Department accountable and responsible for any violations of civil rights, civil liberties, or constitutional protections.

The Board looks forward to working with the Honorable City Council and the Detroit Police Department toward ensuring a safe and prosperous City of Detroit.

Detroit Board of Police Commissioners  
BOPC Support of ShotSpotter Contract Renewal  
June 20, 2022

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Interim Board Secretary  
Melanie White at (313) 596-1830 or [whitem589@detroitmi.gov](mailto:whitem589@detroitmi.gov).

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Jim Holley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**REV. JIM HOLLEY, PHD.**

Chairperson  
Detroit Board of Police Commissioners

cc: Honorable Board of Police Commissioners  
Chief of Police James E. White, Detroit Police Department  
Assistant Chief David LeValley, Office of Professional Development, Detroit Police Department  
Assistant Chief Charles Fitzgerald, Office of Enforcement Operations, Detroit Police Department  
Commander Michael Parish, Chief of Staff, Office of the Chief Police, Detroit Police Department