



CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, NY
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

SHAWYN PATTERSON-HOWARD
Mayor

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MICHAEL A. MONTES
Director

VIA LEGISTAR DELIVERY

Honorable City Council
City Hall - 1 Roosevelt Square West
Mount Vernon, NY 10550
(Through the Office of the Mayor)

Re: Office of Emergency Management Support – Auxiliary Police Assistance ABICA International Food Festival – Hartley Park

Dear Honorable Members of the City Council,

The Mount Vernon Office of Emergency Management respectfully submits this letter in support of the Department of Recreation’s request to provide Auxiliary Police personnel assistance during the Antigua and Barbuda International Cultural Association (ABICA) International Food Festival, scheduled to take place on Saturday, May 23, 2026, at Hartley Park.

This community-centered cultural event celebrates the rich heritage of Antiguan and Barbudan residents within the City of Mount Vernon and will bring together families, residents, and visitors through cultural programming, food vendors, and community engagement activities. The event is scheduled to operate between 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM, including event setup, public programming, and breakdown.

To support the safety and orderly coordination of this large public gathering, the Office of Emergency Management recommends the deployment of Mount Vernon Auxiliary Police personnel to assist with event support functions, including:

- Crowd management and situational awareness
- Public safety presence within the park
- Coordination support with Mount Vernon Police Department and event organizers
- Assistance with pedestrian flow and event logistics

The Auxiliary Police Unit serves as a valuable public safety partner that enhances the City’s capacity during community events, festivals, and emergency operations. Their presence helps promote a safe and welcoming environment for residents and visitors while supporting the overall coordination between city departments.

The Office of Emergency Management fully supports this request and stands ready to work collaboratively with the Department of Recreation, the Mount Vernon Police Department, and event organizers to ensure the successful and safe execution of this cultural celebration.

Thank you for your continued support of community events that strengthen cultural appreciation, unity, and engagement within the City of Mount Vernon.

Respectfully endorsed and submitted,

Michael A. Montes

Director