



CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, N.Y.

Mayor Office

**SHAWYN PATTERSON-HOWARD, MPA**  
*Mayor*

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July 9, 2024

The Honorable City Council  
City of Mount Vernon  
City Hall  
1 Roosevelt Square  
Mount Vernon, New York 10550

Re: Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative

To the Honorable City Council,

For the past four years the Patterson-Howard administration has worked with the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative at JFK School of Government (Harvard University) through different issues municipal governments face daily. The result of this partnership has led the City of Mount Vernon to engage with Bloomberg Harvard for the start of a fellowship for one graduate student to work with the leadership team of the city for a two-year term on specific policy areas within our Buildings Department. This comes at no cost to the city.

This letter is a request for legislation from your honorable body to allow our office to enter into an MOU with Bloomberg Harvard to allow the onboarding of this Fellow for the duration of two years. This fellow will work with the leadership team of the Buildings department to provide general support and flesh out workflows within the department daily. The full details of the MOU are provided in the attachment.

It is our belief that the onboarding of this fellow at no cost to the city will allow us to continue to improve the operations of the Building Department. The MOU will serve for the benefit of our community, and we foresee great opportunity through this initiative. I am available if there are any questions that need to be answered.

In Service,

Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard, MPA  
City of Mount Vernon

**Cc: Law**  
**Buildings**  
**HR**