



# CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK

## DEPARTMENT of RECREATION

**Shawyn Patterson-Howard**  
*Mayor*

City Hall  
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**Kathleen Walker-Pinckney**  
*Commissioner*

**André G. Early**  
*Deputy Commissioner*

May 9, 2025

Honorable Members of the City Council  
Through the Office of the Mayor  
City Hall  
Mount Vernon, NY 10550

**Re: Co-Sponsorship Request- 4th Street Classic Basketball Tournament**

Dear Honorable Council Members:

The Mount Vernon Department of Recreation respectfully requests the adoption of legislation authorizing Recreation to co-sponsor the 2025 "**4th Street Classic Basketball Tournament**" in partnership with **4th Street Classic Basketball and Groovey Lou**.

This community-centered tournament will take place on **Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, beginning June 21, 2025, and concluding with the Championship Game on August 28, 2025**. Each game is scheduled from approximately **1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** The program is designed to reignite the city's long-standing basketball tradition while actively engaging youth between the ages of 14 and 19 in a positive, structured environment.

The tournament will kick off on **Saturday, June 21, 2025**, with an Opening Day celebration and ceremonial tip-off. This day will also mark the official renaming of the park to "Gus Williams Park" in honor of Mount Vernon's own NBA legend. A temporary sign will be installed on that date, with a permanent sign to be erected upon completion of park renovations.

The Department of Recreation will support this event by providing equipment as needed, such as tables, chairs, and inflatable amusements, and using the Doles Center for restrooms, cooling stations, and refreshments. The 4th Street Classic Basketball Tournament organizers will supply insurance coverage for the entire tournament series, and a full schedule of games will be submitted shortly.

The projected cost for City support will not exceed \$2,000, drawn from Budget Code A7310.104, to cover minimal staffing (4–6 employees). Although regular staff are assigned to this park, this allocation is requested as a contingency for absences or additional staffing needs. We further request the presence of auxiliary police to ensure a safe and secure environment throughout the series.

Sincerely,

Commissioner Kathleen Walker- Pinckney-  
Department of Recreation