



CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, N.Y.  
RECREATION DEPARTMENT

**SHAWYN PATTERSON-HOWARD**  
*Mayor*

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**KATHLEEN WALKER- PINCKNEY**  
*Commissioner*

March 21, 2024

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

**Re: 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Autism Awareness Walk and Celebration**

Honorable Councilmembers:

The Department of Recreation requests that the City Council adopt an Ordinance allowing the Department to Co-sponsor the Annual Autism Awareness Walk on Saturday, April 27, 2024, from 11 am – 2 pm. The walk starts on the steps of City Hall and proceeds to the designated location.

The annual Autism Walk represents our community's unity and spirit. It serves as a platform for raising awareness, fostering understanding, and advocating for individuals on the autism spectrum and their families. This event brings our communities together, demonstrating our commitment to support and celebrate neurodiversity. The walk symbolizes our collective solidarity, promoting inclusivity and acceptance while challenging the stigma and misconceptions surrounding autism. Additionally, it provides crucial resources and support networks for families affected by autism, offering a sense of belonging and empowerment. Ultimately, the annual Autism Walk is a beacon of our community's compassion and support for individuals with autism, ensuring they are valued members of our society.

This year (as in years past), we will start on the steps of City Hall. We will walk down Stevens Avenue to Sixth Avenue, make a right, and proceed to the Doles Center (250 So. Sixth Avenue) (Map included), where the celebration of Autism Awareness will commence. We request a Police escort to assist in crossing Stevens Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

We thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Commissioner Kathleen Walker- Pinckney

*"The Jewel of Westchester"*

