



CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, N.Y.
OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER

Darren M. Morton, Ed.D., CPRP, CMFO
Comptroller

City Hall, One Roosevelt Square
Mount Vernon, NY, 10550
(914) 665-2303

November 24, 2025

The Honorable City Council
City Hall
1 Roosevelt Square
Mount Vernon, NY 10550

RE: COMP2025-22 – Request for Authorization to issue Temporary Spending Freeze

Honorable City Council Members:

The Office of the Comptroller respectfully submits this referral requesting that the City Council adopt legislation authorizing a temporary spending freeze on all non-essential expenditures across City operations through the end of February 2026.

As outlined in recent briefings and communications, the City is currently experiencing significant cash-flow pressures driven by delayed revenues, prior-year obligations, and no available fund balance. To ensure that the City can continue meeting its necessary financial responsibilities—such as payroll, employee benefits, and essential public services—it is necessary to implement immediate cost-containment measures.

The proposed legislation would grant the Administration authority to:

- Suspend or restrict discretionary purchases and non-urgent expenses.
- Limit new contractual commitments unless deemed essential to City operations.
- Establish additional internal controls to stabilize cash flow during the freeze period.

This temporary measure will support the City's efforts to safeguard fiscal stability while longer-term corrective actions are implemented.

Thank you for your attention and partnership in protecting the City's financial health.

Respectfully,

Darren M. Morton, Ed.D., CPRP, CMFO
Comptroller

cc: Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard
Corporation Counsel
File