



CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, NY
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION

SHAWYN PATTERSON-HOWARD
Mayor

City Hall, One Roosevelt Square
Mount Vernon, NY, 10550
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KATHLEEN WALKER-PINCKNEY
Commissioner
ANDRÉ G. EARLY
Deputy Commissioner

June 30, 2025

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

Re: 2025 Buddy White Project

Dear Honorable Council Members:

This letter requests that the city enact legislation to allow the Recreation Department to co-sponsor the Back-to-School Backpack event with Henry Allen and the Buddy White Project on Saturday, August 2, 2025. The event will run from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with setup commencing at 8:00 a.m. and cleanup to follow the event. The location for this event will primarily take place at The Doles Recreation Center, with additional venues including 4th Street Park. We also request the closure of 7th Avenue between 3rd and 4th Streets. In the event of inclement weather, the event will solely take place in the Doles Recreation Center, and the requested times will remain the same.

The Buddy White Project, founded by Mr. Henry Allen, is an organization dedicated to investing time and resources in early childhood educational initiatives. This Back-to-School Event, will positively impact the city's youth, predominantly in grades Kindergarten through 8th. We will collaborate with local community-based organizations, and corporations for resources, supplies, and referrals. We will supply more details along with the resources to be distributed in the future.

The cost for this event will be allocated to Budget Code A7620.457 for minimal staff (4-6) and is expected not to exceed \$3,000.00. We are also requesting that the Mount Vernon Auxiliary Police patrol the area.

I appreciate your cooperation in this matter. We are available to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Walker-Pinckney
Commissioner

cc: Office of the Mayor
Office of the Comptroller
Corporation Council
File