



**Metropolitan Detroit Veterans Coalition
Armed Services Salute
11/06/22
IBEW Local 58 Union Hall
Corktown, Detroit**

Tiffany Franklin
Chairman, Historic District Commission
Coleman A. Young Municipal Center
2 Woodward Avenue - Suite 808 Detroit, MI 48226

Chairman Franklin,

The Metropolitan Detroit Veterans Coalition (MDVC) supports the plan for the Brodhead Armory development put forth by The Parade Company. After carefully reviewing this plan and others, we support the Parade Company plan for three key reasons.

- The Parade Company has served the community of SE Michigan for over 90 years. Their aim for this project is true and will serve a broad base of our community for decades to come from this highly visible location.
- The MDVC's mission is to inspire patriotism through community service by honoring our veterans and active military in civic events such as the Annual Detroit Veterans Day Parade. In addition to the parade, we organize the 4Star 4Mile Race that runs alongside the Veterans Day Parade (not before or after), illustrating civilian and veteran collaboration building stronger communities and authentic patriotism. The Parade Company has committed to support our mission by sharing their expertise to help us create a more effective Veterans Day Parade as well as space and usage of the Armory for veteran activities. The Parade Company plan, with its youth programs, would be especially attractive to younger veterans with growing families.
- Finally, the Parade Company proposal is a non-profit enterprise. We believe that accountability to the community at large and specifically the veteran community will be more easily exacted with a non-profit organization versus a plan that includes for-profit underpinnings.

The Armed Services Salute is and has always been, a celebration of Michigan's veterans, active military, civilian community support and the authentic patriotism inspired by that collaboration. The Metropolitan Detroit Veterans Coalition (MDVC) invites all veterans from all affiliations to join them in their march along the streets of Detroit in honor of service to country.

Best,

Dick Chatman,
MDVC Executive Board