



City of Detroit CITY COUNCIL

Brenda Jones Statement on “No” Vote to Wayne County Sheriff Officers on DDOT Busses

Members of the Detroit City Council recently voted “NO” to put Wayne County Sheriff Officers on DDOT busses.

I did not vote in favor of the contract. My decision was based on several critical points.

- Upon approval, I initially asked what was the plan to address security for drivers and riders on the DDOT busses
- I stated repeatedly that riders should have the same level of security be it in their home, workplace, or any public facility
- Detroit Police Officers providing security and protection during special events is a clear indication that availability exist for overtime on DDOT busses until this matter is resolved
- After repeated request to the administration from City Council, to date, the matter of County liability has not been properly addressed.
- \$11.7 million Federal Grant was given to the City to provide security several months ago. During that time, DPD could have developed a strategic plan that would include police officers. Additionally, there are trained officers who are capable and ready to do the job
- Several issues of concern to the City, remain in the contract, specifically:
 - the impact of foot patrols, community policing and attendance at DPS events could critically affect the number of available transit officers to actually ride the busses
 - the prudence of the City providing a service location, radios, vehicles and fuel for said vehicles at its own expense, though the County is willing and able to provide its own uniforms, weapons and other necessary equipment

To reiterate, DPD officers were already on the busses and were removed.

