ANNUAL BUDGET

The City’s annual budget constitutes a financial plan for the next fiscal year (July 1 through June 30), which is required to set forth estimated revenues from all sources and all appropriations. The 2012-13 Budget does not include capital improvements appropriations due to the City’s downgrade in its credit rating.

The City Charter prescribes the general content and process of developing the City’s annual budget. City Council amended the Mayor’s Executive Budget on May 24, 2012. As the Mayor did not submit any vetoes to City Council’s amendments, the final budget for 2012-13 reflects its form after the Council’s vote.

GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE

The City of Detroit is located in Southeastern Michigan and is the nation’s eighteenth largest city based on the 2010 census. It is the central city of a metropolitan area with a population of 4.4 million. Detroit is the largest city in Michigan and comprises 39% of Wayne County’s population. Settled in 1701 and incorporated in 1815, Detroit today encompasses 139.6 square miles.

Pursuant to the provisions of the State Constitution, Detroit is a home rule city with significant independent powers. In accordance with the Charter, the governance of the City is organized in two branches: the executive branch, which is headed by the Mayor, and the legislative branch, which is composed of City Council and its agencies. In addition, the City finances and administers the 36th District Court, Michigan’s largest limited jurisdiction court.

The Mayor as chief executive of the City has control of and is accountable for the executive branch of City government. The Charter grants the Mayor broad managerial powers, including appointment of most department directors and deputy directors. The City Council, composed of nine members elected at large for 4-year terms, is the City’s legislative body. The Council has the power to override a Mayoral veto with a two-thirds majority of its members.

By Charter, voters of the City reserve the power to enact City ordinances by initiative, and to nullify City ordinances by referendum. These powers do not extend to the budget or to any ordinance for the appropriation of money.

Financial operations of the City are carried out through the appointed positions of Finance Director and Budget Director, over whom a new Chief Financial Officer exercises authority with respect to all revenue and expenditure activities as provided in the 2012 Financial Stability Agreement. The Finance Director oversees most financial functions of the City, including collecting and disbursing funds, accounting procedures, purchasing goods and services, and assessing property. The Budget Director is responsible for developing and monitoring program and service objectives, controlling and supervising expenditures of funds, leading long term financial planning, and assisting the Mayor in the preparation of the City’s annual budget and biennial long-term Capital Agenda. Additionally, the Financial Stability Agreement empowers a nine-member Financial Advisory Board to counsel the City on administrative best practices; importantly, the Board must approve revenue estimates by which the City will develop and approve subsequent balanced budgets.

City of Detroit, Michigan

Detroit City Council:
Charles Pugh, President
Gary Brown, Pres. Pro Temp
Saunteel Jenkins
Kenneth V. Cockrel, Jr.
Brenda Jones
Andre L. Spivey
James Tate
Kwame Kenyatta
JoAnn Watson

City Clerk
Janice M. Winfrey

For More Information, contact
City of Detroit Budget Department (313) 224-6260
1100 Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, Detroit, MI 48226
http://www.detroitmi.gov

2012-2013 Fiscal Year
Budget-in-Brief

Dave Bing, Mayor