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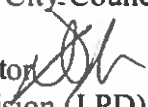
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TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director 
Legislative Policy Division (LPD) Staff

DATE: March 26, 2018

RE: **Resolution in support of remaining community benefits
regarding the Gordie Howe International Bridge**

On March 12, 2019, Council Member Castañeda-López requested that the Legislative Policy Division draft a resolution in support of the remaining community benefits being sought as part of the Gordie Howe International Bridge project. The requested draft resolution is attached.

If Council has any other questions or concerns regarding this subject, LPD will be happy to provide further research and analysis upon request.

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ADDITIONAL \$10 MILLION
IN COMMUNITY BENEFITS FOR DELRAY FROM
GORDIE HOWE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE (GHIB) PROJECT**

By Council Member Castañeda-López

WHEREAS, Detroit City Council has previously resolved¹ that residents of the Delray neighborhood in Detroit should receive adequate community benefits from the Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority that manages the Gordie Howe International Bridge (GHIB) project, to compensate residents for the disproportionate and adverse impacts on their lives and community from hosting this major transportation infrastructure construction project; and

WHEREAS, At this time the prolonged planning process for the GHIB project appears to be nearing its end, and transitioning into the actual construction phase which should include specified community benefits for Delray; and

WHEREAS, Detroit City Council strongly supports the requests of the Delray Community Action Group (CAG) for an additional \$10 million in public health enhancing community benefits, in the following forms:

- **Home repair programs:** \$2.5 million for critical home repairs such as roofs, furnaces, insulation, doors and windows for 150 homes, at an estimated cost of approximately \$15,000 each in Delray and the immediate GHIB impact area, for residents committed to staying and not participating in the Home Swap opportunity;
- **Quality of life programs:** \$3 million for implementing some priority community objectives, such as expanding the existing Home Mitigation program for windows, air filtration and insulation to 100 homes at a cost of approximately \$25,000 each in Delray and additional homes within 500 feet of the GHIB construction footprint that are not participating in the Home Swap program;
- **Youth and senior programs:** \$1.85 million for:
 - Support Peoples Community Services youth after school and summer programs at a cost of \$30,000 per year for a 5-year period, \$150,000 total. Support after school and summer youth programs at the one remaining agency serving children in Delray; PCS operates the City's Delray Park facility, and should receive program funding to provide partial support for their critical programs;
 - Support Clark Park youth recreation programs and synergy with Delray Park at a cost of \$150,000, contributing to the cost of a Splash-Pad, for example;

¹ See, e.g., attached resolution from Fall of 2016)

- Provide critical infrastructure in the form of roof repair for the impact area youth agency, at a cost of \$50,000
- Support the Family Asthma Education & Life Maintenance Program run by CHASS and other active partners with a total of \$1,500,000 paid out over 3 years, at \$500,000 per year; and
- **Air quality programs:** \$2.5 million for a program to upgrade 16 schools and 8 Head Start facilities for early education in South West Detroit with air filtration equipment and window replacement, improving health for over 8,000 students and hundreds of families; and
- **Local agency transit vehicles:** \$150,000 to gain access for vulnerable youth and seniors in the impact area to access health, recreation and skills-building resources; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the above, and because GHIB construction crews have removed 4000 mature trees in the area in preparation for construction, the Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority should pay for and implement appropriate studies and construction projects to re-green Delray and erect barriers and buffers around residential areas to shield them from the most severe and pervasive impacts of increased traffic to-and-from the bridge; moreover, because the loss of so many trees was part of the GHIB construction plan, these remediation measures should be at the bridge authority's expense, rather than subtracting scarce funds from the total community benefits package to provide such basic, just and necessary remediation of the conditions caused by the bridge construction program itself; and

WHEREAS, The GHIB literally represents a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to give back to the residents of Delray and surrounding areas of South West Detroit for the major sacrifices they make in terms of their quality of life in close contact with heavy industry and busy international transportation routes; and

WHEREAS, Failure to provide adequate community benefits to Delray residents would compound severe environmental and social injustices in their neighborhood, sacrificing their health and welfare for the benefit of international transportation infrastructure that runs directly through their community; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Detroit City Council officially and strongly supports the above community benefits for Delray from the Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority, in connection with construction of the Gordie Howe International Bridge (GHIB) project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Copies of this resolution shall be provided to the Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority, the Governor, the Detroit delegation in the State Legislature, and the Michigan delegation in Congress.