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TO: Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director 
Legislative Policy Division

DATE: July 12, 2019

RE: **Draft Memorandum of Understanding between Office of Sustainability and the Green Task Force**

The Legislative Policy Division (LPD) has been requested by Council Member Scott Benson to prepare a draft memorandum of understanding between the Detroit City Council's Green Task Force and the City's Office of Sustainability, where the Green Task Force plays an advisory role to the Office of Sustainability on greenhouse reduction initiatives. As requested LPD is submitting the prosed draft Memorandum of Understanding.

The document may be referred to the Office of Sustainability for review and to the Law Department for review and approval as to form.

If we can be of further assistance please call upon us.

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE CITY OF DETROIT'S
OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY
AND THE
DETROIT CITY COUNCIL'S
GREEN TASK FORCE**

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU"), dated _____, 2019, is entered into by the City of Detroit's Office of Sustainability ("OoS"), and the Detroit City Council's Green Task Force (GTF) in an effort to cooperate and coordinate their respective expertise by allowing the OoS to receive from GTF in an advisory capacity information relative to greenhouse reduction initiatives.

RECITALS:

- A. In 2017, the Mayor's office established the OoS with a mission to create healthy, green, vibrant, accessible neighborhoods where all Detroiters can contribute and benefit through: (i) Collaboration between City departments and agencies; (ii) Engagement and partnership among the City, citizens, and relevant organizations; and (iii) Process and policy improvement.
- B. The GTF has been established pursuant to City Council Rules Section 3.5.3 *Special Committees*, subsection 3.5.3.2 *Taskforce*, that allows for the creation of a taskforce for the purpose of studying a particular problem or issue that is limited to one year, but may be renewed annually by resolution.
- C. The GTF has the dual focus of promoting internal sustainability practices to help City Government become more energy efficient and also to promote a sustainability agenda throughout Detroit as a whole.
- D. The Administration and the City Council are in agreement that the collaboration between the OoS and the GTF would be effective and efficient in the promotion and development of greenhouse gas reduction initiatives and have reached a mutual understanding as to the following:

Section 1, Purpose: The purpose of the MOU is to provide the OoS the availability to engage with the GTF as an advisory body with regard to developing greenhouse gas deduction initiatives. The City Charter, Section 6-509 *Green Initiatives and Technologies*, provides that the City will implement a long-term strategic plan ("Green Initiatives and Sustainable Technologies Plan" or "GIST Plan") for the establishment, use and support of green initiatives, technologies and businesses, utilizing public and private partners. In furtherance of that objective, Subsection 6-509(5) provides that the Mayor may create advisory commissions under section 7-103 to assist with the development, monitoring, implementation and revision of the GIST Plan.

Section 2, Authority: The Administration and the City Council mutually understand that pursuant to the City Charter, 7-103, *Advisory Commissions*, that it is within the purview of the Mayor to establish advisory commissions to advise the Mayor or any administrative department. This MOU is entered into by and between the legislative and executive branches of government and that the Administration is selecting the GTF to serve in an advisory capacity pursuant to the authority granted under Section 7-103.

Section 3, GTF: The OoS entering this MOU understands that the GTF is established pursuant to City Council Rules of Procedure, Subsection 3.5.3.2 *Taskforce*. The representatives of the GTF consist of

numerous environmental advocacy groups, non-profit organizations, environmental businesses, government employees and residents and will be available in an advisory capacity as long as the GTF continues to be established pursuant to City Council Rules. The GTF is established for one year and may be renewed annually by resolution.

Section 4, Term: This MOU shall be effective as of the date upon which it is signed by the authorized representative of the OoS, and a resolution by the City Council of approval is obtained. The MOU will remain in effect unless or until the OoS submits a written notice of termination of the MOU to City Council and/or the GTF has been dissolved or discontinued. Upon termination of the MOU, the authority granted pursuant to Section 7-103 allowing the GTF to be utilized in an advisory capacity shall be voided.

This MOU being executed by the Parties:

City of Detroit's
Office of Sustainability

Detroit City Council's
Green Task Force

By: _____

By: _____

Print: _____

Print: _____

Its: _____

Its: _____

Dated: _____, 2019

Dated: _____, 2019