

S U M M A R Y

AN ORDINANCE to amend Chapter 12 of the 2019 Detroit City Code, *Community Development*, by adding Article X, *Community Engagement*, to include Section 12-10-1, *Purpose; and Title*, Section 12-10-2, *Definitions*, Section 12-10-3, *Community Engagement*, Section 12-10-4, *Exemptions*, to establish a community engagement process that promotes transparency and accountability and ensure community input on legislation, contracts, agreements, and resolutions affecting the social and economic development of the City.

1 **BY COUNCIL MEMBER _____** :

2 AN ORDINANCE to amend Chapter 12 of the 2019 Detroit City Code, *Community*
3 *Development*, by adding Article X, *Community Engagement*, to include Section 12-10-1, *Purpose;*
4 *and Title*, Section 12-10-2, *Definitions*, Section 12-10-3, *Community Engagement*, Section 12-10-
5 4, *Exemptions*, to establish a community engagement process that promotes transparency and
6 accountability and ensure community input on legislation, contracts, agreements, and resolutions
7 affecting the social and economic development of the City.

8 **IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF DETROIT**
9 **THAT:**

10 **Section 1.** Chapter 12 of the 2019 Detroit City Code, *Community Development*, be
11 amended by adding Article X, *Community Engagement*, Section 12-10-1 through Section 12-10-4
12 to read as follows:

13 **CHAPTER 12. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

14 **ARTICLE X. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

15 **Section 12-10-1 . Purpose; and Title.**

16 (a) The City is committed to community outreach and engagement that promotes
17 transparency and accountability and ensures community input on legislation, contracts,
18 agreements, and resolutions affecting the social and economic development of the City.

19 (b) This article shall be known as the “Detroit Community Engagement Ordinance.”

20 **Section 12- 10- 2. Definitions.**

21 Community engagement means public engagement, community engagement, citizen
22 engagement, public hearing, and public comment, and includes, but is not limited to, any form of
23 in-person, technology-aided, or online communication that provides for discussion, dialogue, or

1 deliberation among participants, allowing residents to engage meaningfully in local problem
2 identification, and/or problem solving related to community challenges, problems, and
3 opportunities.

4 City Wide Proposal means all ballot initiatives, bond proposals, amendments to the City of
5 Detroit Master Plan and the Mayor’s annual recommended budget referred to City Council that
6 impact residents across the City, and shall require one community engagement meeting in each of
7 the seven City Council districts.

8 Community Proposal means all proposal types referred to City Council relating to the
9 installation of bike lanes, sale of surplus property, installation of camera surveillance technology,
10 neighborhood planning studies, street scape projects and construction that impact residents within
11 a community. Community Proposals shall require at least two community engagement meetings
12 which shall be distributed throughout the impacted communities.

13 District Proposal means proposals referred to City Council that impact residents within a
14 district. District Proposals shall require four community engagement meetings which shall be
15 distributed throughout the impacted districts.

16 Neighborhood Proposal means proposals referred to City Council that impacts residents
17 within a neighborhood. Neighborhood Approvals shall require one community engagement
18 meeting in the impacted community.

19 **Section 12-10-3. Community Engagement.**

- 20 (a) Community Engagement Process
- 21 (1) Prior to submitting a request for the approval of legislation, contract,
22 agreement, or resolution relating to City Wide Proposals, District Proposals,

1 Community Proposals, or Neighborhood Proposals the Department of
2 Neighborhoods shall hold:

3 a. One community engagement meeting in each of the seven City
4 Council districts for all City Wide Proposals.

5 b. Four community engagement meetings for all District Proposals. In-
6 person community engagement meetings shall be distributed
7 throughout the impacted districts for all District Proposals. Impacted
8 districts shall be determined by the Department of Neighborhoods
9 or the administering department on a case by case basis.

10 c. Two community engagement meetings for all Community
11 Proposals. In-person community engagement meetings shall be
12 distributed throughout the impacted communities for all Community
13 Proposals. Impacted communities shall be determined by the
14 Department of Neighborhoods or administering department on a
15 case by case basis.

16 d. One community engagement meeting in the impacted neighborhood
17 for all Neighborhood Proposals. Impacted neighborhoods shall be
18 determined by the Department of Neighborhoods or administering
19 department on a case by case basis.

20 (2) All community engagement meetings under this Article shall be scheduled
21 within a reasonable time frame prior to City Council's consideration and
22 approval of each proposal.

- 1 (3) All meeting notices shall include the time, date and location of the public
2 meeting, general information about the proposed legislation, contract,
3 agreement or resolution, and contain information related to potential
4 impacts on the community.
- 5 (4) The Department of Neighborhoods shall forward notice of each community
6 engagement meeting required under Section 12-10-3(a)(1) of this Code by:
- 7 a. Posting on the City of Detroit’s website, the Department of
8 Neighborhoods website, and the City of Detroit’s social media
9 pages; and,
- 10 b. Sending an email to all registered community groups registered with
11 the Department of Neighborhoods; and,
- 12 c. Providing some method of direct notification to all residents within
13 300 radial feet for in-person community engagement meeting(s).
- 14 (5) The Department of Neighborhoods and the administering department shall
15 present general information about the proposed legislation, contract,
16 agreement or resolution at the meeting(s) required under Subsection (a)(1)
17 of this section and discuss ways in which the proposed legislation, contract,
18 agreement or resolution is anticipated to impact the subject community, and
19 ways in which the City plans to address or mitigate any negative impact.
- 20 (6) City Council shall appoint a liaison from the Legislative Policy Division to
21 monitor the community engagement process for each proposed legislation,
22 contract, agreement or resolution and provide updates to the City Council.
- 23 (b) Community Engagement Report.

1 (1) The Department of Neighborhoods shall provide a Community Engagement
2 Report to the City Council regarding the proposed legislation, contract,
3 agreement or resolution prior to the request for any approval of City Wide
4 Proposals, District Proposals, Community Proposals, or Neighborhood
5 Proposals as defined in Section 12-10-2 of this Code.

6 (2) The Community Engagement Report shall contain:

- 7 a. A detailed account of notice provided to organize the community
8 engagement meeting(s);
- 9 b. An itemized list of concerns raised by the community at the
10 meetings required under this Article; and
- 11 c. A proposed method to address each of the concerns raised by the
12 community, or why a particular concern will not be addressed.

13 **Section 12-10-4. Exemptions.**

14 The requirements of this Article may be waived by resolution of the City Council upon
15 submission by the Director of the Department of Neighborhoods, identifying reasons that the
16 requirements of this Article are impractical or infeasible, and identifying how the City will
17 otherwise provide an opportunity for community engagement.

Section 2. This ordinance is hereby declared necessary to preserve the public peace,
health, safety and welfare of the people of the City of Detroit.

Section 3. All ordinances, or parts of ordinances, that conflict with this ordinance are
repealed.

Section 4. In the event that this ordinance is passed by two-thirds (2/3) majority of City Council Members serving, it shall be given immediate effect and become effective upon publication in accordance with Section 4-118 of the Detroit City Charter. Where this ordinance is passed by less than a two-thirds (2/3) majority of City Council Members serving, it shall become effective on the thirtieth (30) day after enactment, or on the first day thereafter, in accordance with Section 4-118 of the 2012 Detroit City Charter.

Approved as to form:

Lawrence T. García
Corporation Counsel