

BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT BRENDA JONES

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The residents of the City of Detroit have a long history of personal investment in the operations and functioning of their communities, neighborhoods, and government as evidenced through grass roots organizing in support of community projects or opposition to unhealthy or undesirable projects, investment of sweat equity in the maintenance of neighborhood parks and structures, or essential citizen oversight of City government; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of the City’s commitment to community outreach “that promotes transparency and accountability and ensures community awareness on legislation, contracts, agreements, and resolutions related to . . . City Wide Proposals and Neighborhood Proposals”, the Detroit City Council proposes an amendment to the Detroit City Code, Chapter 12, *Community Development*, by adding Article X, *Community Outreach*, to provide residents with the opportunity to weigh in on important issues impacting their communities, with the exception of construction projects covered by the City’s Community Benefits Ordinance, by creating a standard community outreach policy in the City of Detroit to facilitate civic involvement; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the specific provisions of the proposed *Detroit Community Outreach Ordinance*, the Detroit City Council urges the Administration to endeavor to accomplish the following:

- If additional financial or staffing resources are developed, an expansion of the current in-person hard copy distribution requirement to a 1,000 foot, hard copy distribution requirement for residents within the impacted neighborhood,
- As staffing and financial resources permit, inclusion of residents from the impact area at the *earliest* phases of proposal development,
- Adoption of fair and transparent policies, in consultation with City Council, for identification of impacted neighborhoods, as well as the time frame for implementing outreach; and

WHEREAS, In furtherance of the stated purpose and provisions of the *Detroit Community Outreach Ordinance*, the Administration and City Council have agreed to certain additional provisions as described below. **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT**

RESOLVED, That the Detroit City Council and the Administration agree to the following provisions:

- Outreach meetings will only be held in densely populated areas,
- A City-Wide Registration Database will be created, including the following:
 - (a) The Department of Neighborhoods will create and maintain an electronic database, accessible to City Council, of all residents, block clubs, community groups or associations, businesses, food pantries, non-profit organizations, senior citizen facilities, and established Community Advisory Councils in each of the City districts, that are registered to receive notification of the community outreach and notification process set forth in this Article.

- (b) The Department of Neighborhoods will provide a consistent means for all residents and entities referenced in Subsection (a) to register with the electronic database by:
- (1) Accessing the Department of Neighborhoods website;
 - (2) Providing registration materials at in-person or virtual meetings; and
 - (3) Through an established process for telephonic registration.
- (c) From January 1st through January 31st of each year, the Department of Neighborhoods will launch an annual City-wide campaign encouraging block clubs, community groups and associations, food pantries, non-profit organizations, senior citizen facilities and the established Community Advisory Councils in each City district to register on the electronic database. **AND BE IT FURTHER**


RESOLVED, the City Clerk's office is directed to send a copy of this resolution to Mayor Mike Duggan and the Director of the Department of Neighborhoods.

DRAFT

MEMORANDUM

TO: David Whitaker, Director
Legislative Policy Division

CC: Honorable Colleagues
Janice Winfrey, City Clerk
Avery Peeples, City Council Liaison

FROM: Council President Brenda Jones 

DATE: July 2, 2020

RE: Community Engagement and Outreach Resolution

Please draft a resolution the Community Engagement and Outreach Resolution. The purpose of the resolution is to address various administrative actions that are not legally or fiscally feasible in the amendment to Chapter 12 of the 2019 Detroit City Code, *Community Development*, by Adding Article X, Community Outreach, and Section 12-10-1 through Section 12-10-34.