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TO: The Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director
Legislative Policy Division Staff 

DATE: November 18, 2020

RE: **RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE CITY OF DETROIT LIST ALL REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFPS) IN THE MICHIGAN CHRONICLE**

Detroit City Council President Brenda Jones requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) draft a resolution requesting that the City of Detroit list all Request for Proposals (RFP) in the Michigan Chronicle. Attached, please find our draft of the aforementioned resolution.

Please contact us if we can be of any further assistance.

RESOLUTION BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT JONES

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE CITY OF DETROIT LIST ALL RFP'S IN THE MICHIGAN CHRONICLE

WHEREAS, The mission of the Detroit City Council is to promote the economic, cultural and physical welfare of Detroit's citizens and residents through Charter-mandated legislative functions; and

WHEREAS, Currently the City of Detroit uses the Detroit Legal News to publish all requests for proposals (RFP), public hearing notices, employment advertisements and other pertinent information to the general public; and

WHEREAS, The Detroit Legal News, which characterizes its publication as, "The network of people behind the law," is not, by its own volition a publication intended for the casual reader; and

WHEREAS, The Detroit Legal News is a venerable publication, it is a publication that is followed primarily by individuals who work in, or closely to the legal profession or in government, but is not a publication for the typical person who is not intimately associated with the aforementioned professions. Therefore, most Detroiters, the city's African American community in particular, are left unaware of the City of Detroit's RFP's and other pertinent information it intends to share with the public; and

WHEREAS, In 1936, John Herman Henry Sengstacke, the founder of the Chicago Defender, established the Michigan Chronicle, as a weekly African-American newspaper based in Detroit. The newspaper still exists today and it is important that we not lose the Chronicle, a pillar in the community for decades, which offers a more accessible source of information for Detroiters and its African American community. Therefore, the Chronicle merits the support of the City of Detroit; and

WHEREAS, That the Detroit City Council stongly urges the Administration to consider advertising all requests for proposals (RFP), City's job postings and other pertinent information in the Michigan Chronicle to increase awarenss of these opportunities to Detroiters and the African American population. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Mayor, the Directors of the City's Office of Procurement and the City's Human Resources Department.