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TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director 
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: March 23, 2021

RE: **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF MICHIGAN HOUSE BILL 4014 (2021)**

Council Member Scott Benson requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) draft a resolution in support of House Bill 4014 of 2021.

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

BY COUNCIL MEMBER SCOTT BENSON

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF MICHIGAN HOUSE BILL 4014 (2021)

- 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,** Due to high traffic speeds along roads that were primarily designed for vehicular traffic, many residents do not consider the bicycle as a viable mobility option. Between 2012-2016, Detroit had the highest bicycle fatality rate in Michigan, more than the cities of Grand Rapids, Ann Arbor, Lansing and Warren combined. Further, the New York Times reported that 2019 saw the largest number deaths of pedestrians and bicyclists caused by drivers since 1990; and
- WHEREAS,** If passed, House Bill 4014 proposes to amend the Michigan Vehicle Code Section 628 by authorizing local Michigan governments modest flexibility to reduce speeds to accommodate the use of streets by bicyclists and pedestrians on state, county, and local roads; and
- WHEREAS,** The proposed legislation offers to complement Detroit City Council’s priority for the safety of its’ residents, through the concept of complete streets, by creating areas that are safe for bicyclists and pedestrians, by upgrading the structural landscape of the neighborhoods and shifting the national description of our city; and
- WHEREAS,** In May 2019, Council established the month of May as Bicycle Awareness Month, to promote and encourage strong bicycle friendly activities, acknowledging that bicycling is a safe and welcomed means of transportation and an environmental friendly form of exercise that provides quality family recreation; and
- WHEREAS,** As of 2021, the City has installed more than 243 miles of bike lanes, compared to 13 miles of bike lanes offered in 2007, which signifies the City’s new commitment to neighborhood planning for biking, in addition to providing a variety of amenities, including expanded sidewalks, bicycle lanes, improved lightning, all to revive the City’s neighborhood. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**
- RESOLVED,** That the Detroit City Council urges the Michigan Legislature to support House Bill 4014, which provides procedures under which the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) county and local road authorities can modify general speed limits, to account for local circumstances. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY**
- RESOLVED,** That copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Detroit delegation in the State Senate and State House, Representative Bradley Slagh, Mayor Mike Duggan and Governor Whitmer.