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TO: Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director 
Legislative Policy Division

DATE: February 28, 2022

RE: Resolution re-establishing the City Council Skilled Trades Task Force

City Council Member Mary Waters has requested the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) produce a resolution calling for the re-establishment of the Skilled Trades Task Force.

If Council requests additional information, research and/or analysis, LPD will be happy to provide same.

A RESOLUTION REESTABLISHING THE DETROIT CITY COUNCIL SKILLED TRADES TASK FORCE

By Council Member Mary Waters

- WHEREAS The need for skilled trades has remained strong even during the economic fallout of the pandemic with many trades deemed essential to society and experiencing surges in demand; and
- WHEREAS In 2019, there were more than half a million jobs available across the skilled trades industry. Within a decade, that number is expected to rise upwards of two million. And according to the National Electrical Contractors Association, 7000 electricians join annually while 10,000 electricians retire each year creating growing demand and workforce shortages: and
- WHEREAS Detroit residents continue to suffer under record unemployment which can lead to foreclosure of their homes and even bankruptcy, and
- WHEREAS Many individuals in our community possess certification in the skilled trades and are in need of job opportunities in high paying construction and related fields; and
- WHEREAS Other individuals, including our youth, are interested in the skilled trades as a future profession and are in need of mentoring and access to apprenticeship programs and quality employment opportunities; and
- WHEREAS City Council has recognized the need for a Skilled Trades Task Force in the past due to a general lack of information provided to the public about the skilled trades, and the continuing need to provide a forum for the many facets of the skilled trades community to meet and share information and ideas; NOW THEREFORE BE IT
- RESOLVED That the Detroit City Council hereby reestablishes a Skilled Trades Task Force to be chaired by Council Member Mary Waters, effective immediately and continuing through December 31, 2022, and BE IT FURTHER
- RESOLVED That the Task Force include residents, representatives from the community and business sector, union representatives, Michigan works and Civil Rights and Inclusion and Opportunity Department, as well as any other individuals interested in participating, and BE IT FINALLY
- RESOLVED That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to each of the named departments, agencies, and organizations indicated and that all activities necessary to bring about the first meeting of the Task Force occur.