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TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director   
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: November 18, 2022

RE: **RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP TO ASSIST COUNCIL IN DRAFTING A PROPORTIONAL FUNDING ORDINANCE**

Council President Mary Sheffield requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) draft a RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP TO ASSIST COUNCIL IN DRAFTING A PROPORTIONAL FUNDING ORDINANCE.

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

**BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT MARY SHEFFIELD**

**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP TO ASSIST COUNCIL IN DRAFTING A PROPORTIONAL FUNDING ORDINANCE**

**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,** the City's independent agencies play an important and vital role in ensuring the City operates in its most efficient manner with honesty and integrity; and

**WHEREAS,** However, the nature of work by the independent oversight agencies of the Office of the Inspector General, Auditor General, Ombudsperson and Board of Ethics, in some cases reveal non flattering information that reflect negatively on the City's operations. Sometimes their work will uncover instances of neglect, abuse and in rare cases, illegal actions, against those responsible for budgetary decisions and may result or appear to result in retaliatory budget cuts; and

**WHEREAS,** To address such concerns, the Detroit City Charter ensures agencies, such as the Board of Ethics (2-106.13) and the Office of Inspector General (7.5-316), are provided sufficient funding as the City's oversight agencies. Moreover, Section 8-214 of the Charter states: "The Detroit City Council shall establish a proportional method to fund oversight agencies to insure the proper oversight of executive and legislative branches of government. City Council shall arrive at an equitable proportional method to fund oversight agencies in local government. City Council shall prepare and adopt a proportional funding system **within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this Charter;**"<sup>1</sup> and

**WHEREAS,** The aforementioned section of the charter further states: "The funding system shall include a formula to distribute funds to each of the agencies contained in this section and any other agencies added by ordinance. The internal cost allocation plan shall determine the amount of funds to be appropriated to each agency for oversight functions. The proportional funding system shall be enacted by ordinance. The ordinance shall contain this mandate to establish a proportional method of funding for oversight agencies, the list of agencies included in this section and other agencies determined by City Council" and

**WHEREAS,** Lastly, Section 8-214 specifically states: "The oversight agencies referred to in this section shall include the Office of the Inspector General, Auditor General, Ombudsperson and Board of Ethics," Therefore, in order to ensure compliance with the above section of the Charter, the Detroit City Council without further delay should establish a working group, inclusive of the respective oversight agencies for continuity purposes, the Council's Legislative Policy Division and the Law Department, to develop a draft ordinance to establish a proportional method to fund the City's oversight agencies designated in this resolution; and

**WHEREAS,** Finally, once established, the draft ordinance should be in alignment with all pending and existing legislative policies and not conflict with any existing laws and ultimately subject to Council's final review, discussion, and formal approval in accordance with the requirements articulated in the Charter; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

**RESOLVED,** The Detroit City Council calls for the establishment of a working group to develop a draft ordinance to establish a proportional method to fund the City's oversight agencies designated in this resolution, in order to ensure an equitable proportional method is secured to sufficiently fund the operations of

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<sup>1</sup> [2\\_29\\_2012\\_CharterDocument\\_2\\_1\\_WITHOUT\\_COMMENTARY\\_1.pdf\(detroitmi.gov\)](#)

the Office of the Inspector General, Auditor General, Ombudsperson and Board of Ethics on an annual basis as designated in the Charter; **BE IT FINALLY**

**RESOLVED,** That copies of this resolution be forwarded to Mayor Mike Duggan and the City's Corporation Counsel, Conrad Mallet.