



City of Detroit

CITY COUNCIL

MARY SHEFFIELD
CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT
DISTRICT 5

MEMORANDUM

TO: David Whitaker, Director, Legislative Policy Division
FROM: Mary Sheffield, President, Detroit City Council
DATE: January 20, 2023
RE: DDA Report

Detroit has several public authorities that operate alongside, and sometimes, in place of the City of Detroit Government. One such authority is the Downtown Development Authority, which many Detroiters are unaware of its purpose and function. Originally established in 1975 to spur redevelopment in the greater downtown area, the question is whether the DDA has achieved its original purpose and is still needed. Please provide a report on the Downtown Development Authority that includes the following:

- History of the Authority
- Historical context of its founding
- Organizational structure and duties
- Funding sources
- Annual budget
- The process to bring DDA activities under City of Detroit Control
- The process for dissolution of the DDA

Please contact Ari Ruttenberg from my office at ruttenberga@detroitmi.gov if you have any questions.

Cc: Honorable Colleagues
City Clerk