



# City of Detroit

## CITY COUNCIL

**JAMES E. TATE JR.**  
CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO-TEMPORE  
DISTRICT 1

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Garrick Landsberg, Director of Historic Preservation  
THRU: Budget, Finance, and Audit Standing Committee  
FROM: Council President Pro Tempore James E. Tate Jr.  
DATE: Friday, March 17, 2023  
RE: Historical Department FY 2023-2024 Budget Questions

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Following the Historical Department FY 2023-2024 budget hearing on March 9, 2023, please respond to the following questions.

1. What is the status of locating the original table that was in the Committee of the Whole prior to renovations?
2. What is the status of original furniture that was in the Committee of the Whole prior to renovations?
3. Can the DHS research to find who was the first African American elected to the Detroit City Council. Recently, two names surfaced - William Patrick, Jr. was elected in the early 1950's and Samuel C. Watson was elected to Detroit City Council in the 1880's. It seems no other African American Detroiters were elected between 1880 and 1950.

If there are any questions, please contact Sumaiyah Ahmed, at [sumaiyah.ahmed@detroitmi.gov](mailto:sumaiyah.ahmed@detroitmi.gov).

Thank you,

CC: Honorable Council Members  
Mr. Malik Washington, Mayor's Office  
Mr. Steve Watson, Office of the Chief Financial Officer