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TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director 
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: July 5, 2024

RE: **RESOLUTION REQUESTING OUTSIDE COUNSEL TO PROVIDE LEGAL ANALYSIS OF THE PROPOSED SOLAR NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE**

Council President Mary Sheffield requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) draft a resolution requesting the Perkins Law Group, PLLC to provide legal analysis of the proposed Neighborhood Solar Initiative.

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

BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT MARY SHEFFIELD

**RESOLUTION TO RETAIN OUTSIDE COUNSEL TO PROVIDE LEGAL ANALYSIS OF
THE PROPOSED SOLAR NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE**

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Section 4-121 of the Detroit City Charter, City Council is expressly authorized to “obtain the opinion or advice of an outside law firm or outside attorney in any matter pending before it; and

WHEREAS, The administration has placed several items on City Council’s agenda regarding the proposed Neighborhood Solar Initiative (“Initiative”), which would involve the City’s exercise of eminent domain and which would not be in conformance with the City’s Zoning Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, Both the Law Department and the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) have issued privileged and confidential opinions addressing the potential legal issues surrounding the proposed Initiative; and

WHEREAS, The City Council has expressed the desire to obtain an independent legal analysis of the proposed Initiative from outside counsel; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED, The City Council authorizes its previously retained outside counsel, the Perkins Law Group, PLLC, to provide a legal opinion with regard to the various legal issues associated with the Neighborhood Solar Initiative; **NOW BE IT FINALLY**

RESOLVED, That the Detroit City Clerk provide a copy of this resolution to Corporation Counsel Conrad Mallett.