

THE DETROIT CITY COUNCIL
2025-2026 FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY PRIORITIES,
PUBLIC POLICY, PLANNING AND ACTION RESOLUTION

BY ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS:

WHEREAS, The Honorable Mayor Mike Duggan presented his proposed Executive Budget for FY 2025-26 and a Four-year Financial Plan for the City of Detroit to the Honorable Detroit City Council on February 28, 2025, and in fulfillment of its Charter-mandated role and in keeping with past practice, City Council held hearings and deliberations on the proposed Executive Budget for FY 2025-2026 as submitted by the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, The City of Detroit (City) continues on its positive trajectory since emerging from bankruptcy at the end of 2014. Reinvestment in the City's infrastructure has been ongoing, with fiscal restraint remaining paramount; and, the alignment of expenditures and revenues continues to be balanced with improvements in service delivery to residents; and

WHEREAS, The City has achieved twelve consecutive years of balanced budgets by adhering to sound financial practices and financial resiliency which paved the way for continued economic and tax base growth which was acknowledged by the City's recent double credit rating increase from Moody's Investors Service that restores investment grade status not seen since 2009; and

WHEREAS, Michigan Public Act 181 of 2014 (Act 181) provided for State oversight of the City's finances for at least fourteen years. This budget process is proceeding under a waiver of active oversight, granted by the Financial Review Commission (FRC) in April 2018. The annually renewable waiver requires the City to submit its adopted budget and four-year financial plan to the FRC by April 30 of each year in order to maintain this status; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Sec. 8-213 of the 2012 City Charter and Public Act 182 of 2014, the City's Chief Financial Officer, Budget Director, Auditor General, and the City Council's Legislative Policy Division, along with other top officials held a revenue estimating conference which determined reasonable, agreed upon revenue projections of General Fund revenues for the upcoming fiscal year, totaling \$1.576 billion; and

WHEREAS, The FY 2026-2029 four-year financial plan, as presented to City Council, shows salaries and employee benefits citywide increasing from \$1.199 billion in FY 2025 to \$1.290 billion in FY 2026, an increase of \$91 Million, 7.6%. Beginning with fiscal year 2024, the City no longer makes discretionary pension contributions to the Retiree Protection Fund Trust Fund (RPTF) and has begun planned withdrawals from the fund to pay its annual legacy pension cost. The FY 2026, \$173.0 Million legacy pension payment is based on a 30-year amortization period for both the General Retirement System and the Police & Fire Retirement System. For FY 2026, the city is utilizing a 30-year level principal amortization method, which requires an additional \$5 million in legacy pension payments which will be paid from the Retiree Protection Fund.

This amortization method accelerates payments in the short run but is expected to improve the overall plan funded ratio and is projected to reduce annual costs over the long term. The Retiree Protection Trust Fund (RPTF) was projected to grow to \$455.0 Million to soften the pension blow in FY 2024; and

WHEREAS, In FY 2026, the pension payment could approach 11.1% of the general fund recurring budget under a 30-year amortization period. The amount of the City's annual pension payment fluctuates depending on how the stock market and the pension investments perform, the pension payback period (payment amortization period) and how much the City owes in pensions (unfunded actuarial liability). Conservative budgeting needs to be continued to reflect fiscal realities and avoid a reversion into bankruptcy and to diminish the City's ability to provide critical services. Pension costs will need extremely close monitoring; and

WHEREAS, On this day, April 7, 2025, the Detroit City Council adopts a program budget that is based on sound conservative budgetary principles for municipalities, well-reasoned financial assumptions, and past performance, as well as stated goals and projections for City departments, divisions, and agencies, as well as in consideration of the dictates of the "Plan for the Adjustment of Debts of the City of Detroit" (POA); and

WHEREAS,

To ensure that our city's finances stay on the road to prosperity and we never return to the days of financial insolvency, the Detroit City Council will propose an ordinance mandating self-monitoring of the city's finance under the same conditions and scrutiny utilized by the State Financial Review Commission, and

WHEREAS, City Council urges the Administration to establish a better monitoring system concerning monetary changes to the approved budget and assign project numbers to allow for better tracking of projects and changes; and

WHEREAS, The city budget is developed with the goal of addressing citywide expenses and improvements. A Participatory Budgeting Program would implement a district budget and allow residents to collectively identify and address the greatest need of their district. Giving residents a direct say in how public dollars are spent not only builds trust in government but also leads to more responsive, equitable investments in our neighborhoods. Although residents present the issues that impact their community, the city budget must prioritize improvements and solutions that impact the city as a whole. The City of Detroit is committed to working with community leaders to develop and implement the Participatory Budgeting Program and urges the Administration to allocate \$1 million to support participatory budgeting initiatives; and

WHEREAS, Detroit is exploring the concept of a split rate tax, which has the potential to transform the city's landscape. By adopting this approach, Detroit aims to encourage development, reduce land speculation, and foster a more equitable tax system. The split rate tax system can contribute to a more equitable distribution of tax burdens by shifting the focus of taxation from buildings to land. Detroit City Council supports further study of this concept that has the potential to stimulate growth and revitalization, creating a more dynamic and prosperous city; and

WHEREAS, Municipal governments face increasing pressure to improve service delivery and performance while funding received from the state and other government agencies continues to decline. Detroit remains one of the most tax-burdened Cities in Michigan, with much of that burden falling on low and middle-income Detroiters. With world-class sports and entertainment, people from all over the region and country come to enjoy all Detroit has to offer. In order to maintain Detroit's status as a tourist destination, it is vital that the administration find new and innovative sources of revenue without putting the burden entirely on the backs of Detroiters. Therefore, the City Council urges the OCFO to perform a local sales tax study, including looking at excise taxes on entertainment in the Central Business District; and

WHEREAS, Issues revolving around substance abuse and its devastating effects on youth and families have plagued our city for decades. Although it is important to focus on our youth, equally important are the effects this has on families as a whole. City Council urges an increase in funding from the Marijuana Tax Revenue for health-related initiatives and a change in scope and focus from youth services to include family services; and

WHEREAS, the "Too Cool for Drugs" program provides mental health training, substance misuse/abuse education, and Naloxone distribution outreach to residents, businesses and organizations throughout the city. City Council urges additional funding be provided so that the health and well-being of our youth can be prioritized due to the over proliferation of alcohol, tobacco and marijuana products in our community, and

WHEREAS, Michigan voters legalized recreational cannabis in 2018, and in December 2022, Detroit issued its first adult-use cannabis licenses, making the city the largest cannabis market in the state. This market is led by Detroit Legacy residents who are committed to reinvesting in their communities by providing jobs, affordable housing, supporting the homeless, maintaining clean parks, and offering free services like eye exams for children. While Detroit's legal cannabis market thrives, illegal cannabis cultivation and sales continue to threaten public safety, consumer protection, and Detroit's share of state cannabis excise taxes. To combat this, the Detroit Police Department (DPD) will purchase Lock Seal Folder bags and NIK chemical testing kits for field operations, valued at approximately \$6,000, and collaborate with the Detroit Office of Cannabis Affairs to enhance in-house marijuana testing capabilities; and

WHEREAS, The City of Detroit has been expressly named by the State of Michigan's Social Equity Program as a community "which has been disproportionately impacted by marijuana prohibition and enforcement". City Council urges the administration to reassign 95% of funds the City received from the excise taxes collected from the sale and transfer of cannabis to assist with the social equity grant program and support the cannabis businesses owned and operated by Detroit residents by providing business development and technical assistance; and

WHEREAS, Since 2013, the Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network (DWIHN) has provided an array of services for substance use disorders, including prevention, treatment, and recovery services. The Detroit Health Department has provided public health services to our residents for

over 100 years, while partnering with neighborhoods and community stakeholders. City Council urges the health department to form a partnership with DWIHN to leverage substance use prevention resources, for tobacco, alcohol, marijuana and mental health support services, and

WHEREAS, The City of Detroit is committed to creating and implementing an ordinance to establish the Office of Violence Prevention, with the goal of addressing and reducing all forms of violence, including but not limited to domestic violence, youth violence, gun violence, and community violence, through the development, coordination, and support of comprehensive programs, policies, and initiatives designed to foster safer and healthier communities for all residents. And placing the funding within the Nondepartmental cost center to ensure it has the autonomy, visibility, and resources necessary to effectively coordinate citywide violence prevention efforts—this item shall also be included in the Administration’s closing resolution; and

WHEREAS, Violence is the leading cause of injury, death, and mental health problems for American youth. The implementation of programs that focus on preventing violence help lower crime rates by addressing root causes like poverty, trauma and lack of resources, Although by most indications violence crimes in our city have leveled out for the time being. Detroit remains one of the most violent cities in America. Rather than just responding to it, we urge the creation of an office of violence prevention to be housed in the health department; and

WHEREAS, Exposure to violence and traumatic events can have lasting emotional and psychological effects on individuals, families, and communities, particularly in neighborhoods disproportionately impacted by crime; in response, City Council urges the Administration, through the Detroit Police Department (DPD), to create a neighborhood trauma team focused on providing immediate and ongoing trauma-informed support, crisis intervention, and community-based resources to residents affected by violence, with the goal of promoting healing, resilience, and long-term public safety; and

WHEREAS, the City of Detroit, through the Detroit Police Department (DPD), must be equipped with the necessary tools to ensure the safety of residents and visitors across its 139 square miles. As technology advances, so must law enforcement methods. To this end, the DPD shall invest in a new Cell Site Simulator (CSS), which mimics cellphone towers to track phone locations and gather data to potentially identify suspects. Since 2017, CSS technology, used only after obtaining a search warrant, has assisted numerous DPD units and outside agencies such as the FBI and DEA. With a success rate of over 95%, this life-saving tool has been instrumental in recovering missing persons and apprehending violent criminals. As the city’s current system is outdated, DPD, under the city's vehicle Installment Purchase Agreement, will swiftly purchase a new CSS-equipped vehicle, valued at \$980,000, to meet current needs and ensure public safety; and

WHEREAS, the Detroit Police Department (DPD) currently utilizes an oversized, outdated protective response vehicle that, while crucial for high-risk tactical operations such as hostage rescues, active shooter situations, and crowd control, is increasingly prone to service and maintenance issues, reducing its reliability and effectiveness; and its excessive weight causes damage to both public and private property, including infrastructure, resulting in costly repairs

and safety concerns; and given the evolving demands for tactical extraction, protection, and mobility, DPD will replace this vehicle with a smaller, more suitable model that balances operational efficiency, protection, and minimal environmental impact, under the city's vehicle Installment Purchase Agreement; and

WHEREAS, Exposure to violence and traumatic events can have lasting emotional and psychological effects on individuals, families, and communities, particularly in neighborhoods disproportionately impacted by crime; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Detroit Police Department (DPD), to create a neighborhood trauma team focused on providing immediate and ongoing trauma-informed support, crisis intervention, and community-based resources to residents affected by violence – with services available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year – with the goal of promoting healing, resilience, and long-term public safety; and

WHEREAS, Building a public safety system that is inclusive, equitable, and responsive to the needs of all residents requires law enforcement personnel to be equipped with the knowledge and skills to interact appropriately with individuals with disabilities, including those with physical, cognitive, and invisible disabilities; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Detroit Police Department (DPD), to implement comprehensive disability sensitivity training for all officers and relevant staff. This training should include education on the full spectrum of disabilities—including visible and invisible conditions such as mental health disorders, autism, and chronic illnesses—along with strategies for respectful and effective communication and best practices for de-escalation and crisis intervention, to ensure that all interactions with disabled residents are safe, dignified, and grounded in empathy and understanding; and

WHEREAS, the Detroit Police Department is called to incorporate comprehensive training for officers to better understand and appropriately engage with immigrant populations, particularly those with U-visas and/or who are unauthorized, ensuring that these individuals are treated fairly, their legal rights are respected, and that public safety measures are applied in a manner that builds trust with immigrant communities while also safeguarding their access to services and protections; and

WHEREAS, Detroit is home to a growing immigrant population whose cultural, economic, and social contributions are vital to the city's future, and while the Office of Immigrant Affairs has been instrumental in coordinating services, addressing immigrant-related needs, and connecting individuals to vital resources; its long-term stability and funding remain dependent on administrative priorities, thereby underscoring the urgent need to formalize the office within the city's ordinance and ensure it is equipped with a clear strategic plan that defines its mission, goals, metrics and interdepartmental coordination to better serve Detroit's diverse communities; and

WHEREAS, Detroit's diverse population, with its many individuals and families, face urgent needs for shelter, legal support, employment authorization, stabilization services; and existing resources are often overburdened or inaccessible, making it critical for the City to expand culturally competent shelter options and invest in legal services that protect due process, support residency pathways, and promote long-term community integration through coordinated service delivery and sustainable funding; and

WHEREAS, Body-worn cameras have become standard issue in most police departments throughout the country. Some police departments are now utilizing AI technology to filter through tremendous hours of footage to conduct systematic reviews of officer behavior to determine behavior trends among officers. This helps the public safety departments to identify both problematic and effective policy practices of specific officers. City Council urges the Detroit Police Department to invest in similar AI technology; and

WHEREAS, Building a public safety system that is inclusive, equitable, and responsive to the needs of all residents requires law enforcement personnel to be equipped with the knowledge and skills to interact appropriately with individuals with disabilities; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Detroit Police Department (DPD), to implement comprehensive disability sensitivity training for all officers and relevant staff. This training should include education on various types of physical, cognitive, and invisible disabilities; strategies for respectful and effective communication; and best practices for de-escalation and crisis intervention, to ensure that interactions with disabled residents are safe, dignified, and grounded in empathy and understanding; and

WHEREAS, Accessible street parking is essential for ensuring that individuals with disabilities can safely and conveniently access businesses, public facilities, and services throughout the City of Detroit; however, there is currently no comprehensive inventory of existing accessible street parking spaces, making it difficult to assess gaps in availability and plan for future improvements; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Department of Public Works (DPW), to conduct a citywide study to determine the total number, condition, and distribution of designated accessible street parking spaces. This study should include an assessment of compliance with ADA standards and be used to inform equitable infrastructure planning and ensure that accessible parking is adequately available in high-need areas across Detroit; and

WHEREAS, Accessible street parking is essential to ensuring mobility, independence, and equal access for individuals with disabilities; however, the lack of a centralized, publicly available tool to locate ADA-compliant parking spaces presents a barrier to accessibility; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Municipal Parking Department, to develop and implement a comprehensive mechanism for mapping all designated accessible street parking spaces across the City of Detroit. This tool should be made available to the public through the city's website, the Park Detroit App, and other digital platforms, and include real-time updates and clear signage to assist residents and visitors with disabilities in identifying and utilizing compliant parking spaces safely and efficiently; and

WHEREAS, Many Detroiters are still unaware of the Detroit Resident Discount Parking Program, which aims to alleviate the burden of parking penalties by offering eligible residents a substantial discount on certain parking violation fees. Therefore, the Detroit City Council urges the Municipal Parking Department to prioritize funding for the marketing of the Detroit Resident Discount Parking Program, ensuring more Detroiters are able to benefit from this cost-saving initiative; and

WHEREAS, Parking on the avenue of fashion has been a topic of discussion for decades. As street renovations have taken place, access to parking has dwindled, leaving residents and business owners unsure of whether a viable solution is on the horizon. City Council urges the administration to conduct a comprehensive parking study on the Avenue of Fashion, to find a way to offer relief to the many Detroiters who frequent the area; and

WHEREAS, To increase the safety for residents, City Council urges the Public Lighting Authority to replace the obsolete poles along McNichols between Greenlawn and Wyoming and improve the quality of lighting in this commercial corridor; and

WHEREAS, Reliable, modern, and responsive public lighting is essential to enhancing neighborhood safety, improving quality of life, and supporting economic activity throughout the City of Detroit; and the implementation of smart lighting infrastructure—including remote monitoring, energy efficiency features, and automated outage detection—offers the potential to improve service delivery and reduce long-term operational costs; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Public Lighting Department and Public Lighting Authority (PLD/PLA), to conduct a comprehensive cost study for the development and citywide implementation of smart lighting infrastructure that can proactively identify lighting outages and improve maintenance efficiency; and

WHEREAS, Increased constituent complaints regarding lighting outages and delays in repairs highlight the need for greater responsiveness and capacity within the City’s public lighting operations; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Public Lighting Department and Public Lighting Authority (PLD/PLA), to allocate funding for additional staff dedicated to handling constituent concerns and resolving lighting-related service requests in a timely and effective manner; and

WHEREAS, Residents across Detroit consistently raise concerns about poorly lit neighborhoods, especially in alleys, which often become sites of illegal dumping or contribute to feelings of unsafety. Addressing these concerns is essential to improving public safety and quality of life in our neighborhoods. Therefore, the Detroit City Council urges the Administration to allocate any necessary funding that will allow the Public Lighting Authority to conduct a comprehensive lighting study with the intention of modifying the city’s lighting plan to include consistent alley lighting across all neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Residents across Detroit consistently raise concerns about poorly lit neighborhoods, especially in alleys, which often become sites of illegal dumping or contribute to feelings of unsafety. Addressing these concerns is essential to improving public safety and neighborhood quality of life. Therefore, the Detroit City Council urges the Administration to allocate any necessary funding that will allow the Public Lighting Authority to conduct a comprehensive lighting study with the intention of modifying the city’s lighting plan to include consistent alley lighting across all neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Abandoned school buildings pose safety risks, negatively impact neighborhood stability, and hinder community revitalization efforts; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Construction and Demolition Department (CDD), to develop a comprehensive study and initiate a pilot program to systematically demolish abandoned school structures utilizing bond financing, thereby promoting public safety, neighborhood redevelopment, and long-term community investment; and

WHEREAS, Automated demolition practices have improved and are revolutionizing the demolition industry. City Council urges the CDD to research how these advanced robotics, and automated demolition methods might be utilized in the demolition process to provide a safer and more cost-effective solution; and

WHEREAS, City Council recognizes the concerns of the residents regarding trash along commercial corridors, City Council urges the Administration to dramatically increase the number of recycling bins and trash bins city wide and allocates \$500,000 for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, City Council urges the Administration to engage in a feasibility study and marketability study concerning a recycling program in support of the additional recycling bins placed along commercial corridors and other locations city wide; and

WHEREAS, the city of Detroit has over 3 million sidewalk flags on residential streets. In 2023, DPW determined nearly 470,000 flags needed replacement. The department has been diligent in replacing sidewalks, however, there still remains a significant backlog. City Council requests the Department of Public Works provide the number of pending requests in the back log that will be addressed in this 2026 budget year; and

WHEREAS, The business community in District 1 and throughout Detroit has been significantly impacted by the much-needed road and sidewalk repairs taking place within the vicinity of their establishment. Reduced customer traffic and sales have created financial hardships, forcing some businesses to close. City Council urges the administration to work with the appropriate entities to establish a reimbursement program to assist businesses that suffer from public construction projects, whether performed by city workers or contractors, that obstruct access to their storefronts or nearby streets; and

WHEREAS, Enhancing visibility and safety on city streets is crucial for protecting pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers, particularly during nighttime or low-visibility conditions; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Department of Public Works (DPW), to expand or modify the use of reflective streetscape tiles citywide, improving roadway visibility, pedestrian safety, and overall traffic safety within Detroit neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the Accessibili-D is an autonomous shuttle pilot for older Detroiters and residents with disabilities. The service is being provided by a collaboration between the City's office of Mobility innovation , the Michigan Mobility Collaborative, and May Mobility, supported by a grant and philanthropic funds that ensures Detroit will become a true leader in mobility innovation. The Detroit City Council urges continued funding and expansion of this program serving seniors and the disabled, and

WHEREAS, Safe, accessible, and comfortable transit infrastructure is essential to ensuring reliable and dignified transportation for Detroit residents who rely on public transit daily; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Detroit Department of Transportation (DDOT), to prioritize the expansion of safe and accessible benches and shelters at major bus stops across the city, particularly upon the receipt of anticipated federal funding, to enhance rider experience, protect passengers from inclement weather, and promote equitable access to public transportation; and

WHEREAS, Equitable and accessible public transportation is critical to the mobility and independence of all Detroiters, including seniors and individuals with disabilities; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Detroit Department of Transportation (DDOT), to expand the installation of accessible bus stop curbs and landing pads at stops across the city to ensure compliance with ADA standards and improve safety, convenience, and access for all riders;; and

WHEREAS, Seniors often face significant transportation barriers that limit their access to essential services, cultural institutions, recreational opportunities, and other key assets across the City of Detroit; ensuring safe, reliable, and accessible transit options for older residents is vital to promoting equity, independence, and overall well-being; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Detroit Department of Transportation (DDOT), to conduct a transportation research report focused on identifying the transit needs and challenges of seniors residing in senior housing facilities, and to explore strategies for improving transit connections between these residences and major Detroit destinations such as hospitals, grocery stores, libraries, parks, and cultural venues. This report should include community input, data analysis, and actionable recommendations to inform future service planning and investment; and

WHEREAS, Upgrading the comfort, cleanliness, and overall rider experience on public transit is essential to increasing ridership, ensuring accessibility, and improving the quality of service for Detroiters; the Detroit Department of Transportation (DDOT) has been allocated \$673,000 in the FY2025-26 budget to begin replacing bus seats with non-cloth seating, which offers easier cleaning, improved hygiene, greater long-term maintenance benefits, and lower maintenance costs; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through DDOT, to prioritize the timely implementation of this seating upgrade and to include in the Administration's closing resolution an expansion of this effort to replace all cloth seats with non-cloth seating across the entire DDOT bus fleet, ensuring a consistent, safe, and modern transit experience for all Detroiters; and

WHEREAS, Ensuring pedestrian safety, particularly for residents who are visually impaired, requires thoughtful design and placement of tactile pavement to clearly separate pedestrian spaces from vehicle traffic; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Department of Public Works (DPW), to increase the distance between tactile pavement and streetways citywide, improving pedestrian safety and accessibility, and reducing the risk of accidents and injuries in Detroit communities; and

WHEREAS, Effective management and oversight of right-of-way easements, encroachments, and vacations are crucial to preserving public access, safety, and city infrastructure integrity; therefore,

City Council urges the Administration, through the Department of Public Works (DPW), to develop and implement comprehensive monitoring plans ensuring compliance with regulations related to right-of-way easements, encroachments, and vacations, thereby safeguarding public spaces, enhancing accountability, and maintaining orderly development within the City of Detroit; and

WHEREAS, Safe, accessible, and well-maintained public transit infrastructure is essential to the quality of life, and mobility, of Detroit residents; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Department of Public Works (DPW), to expand the Detroit Department of Transportation (DDOT) bus stop pilot program citywide, ensuring bus stops across the city are safer, fully accessible, and supportive of residents' transit needs; and

WHEREAS, for the city of Detroit to become a true world class city, it will take some significant improvements in our public transportation system. A good transportation system should be clean, efficient, safe, affordable and reliable. With these goals in mind, Council would like to increase the DDOT budget by 2 million for more bus shelters and drivers citywide; and

WHEREAS, The Detroit Department of Transportation (DDOT) Reimagined Plan lays out a bold vision for a more efficient, rider-focused bus network that better serves Detroiters' mobility needs. Therefore, the Detroit City Council urges the Administration to allocate the necessary funding to fully implement the DDOT Reimagined Plan and deliver a more reliable, accessible, and equitable transit system for Detroiters; and

WHEREAS, for many of our low income citizens, the price of a bus ticket is an obstacle. Communities across the country are considering waiving fares for bus service as a way to fight inequality and lower carbon omissions. The Detroit City Council supports DDOT's and the Administrations efforts working toward establishing a low income fare or free ridership program to increase mobility and accessibility for those who are low income and/or without personal vehicles, allowing our residents to safely travel to work, school or social events and increasing the overall use of public transportation; and

WHEREAS, Reliable transportation is essential for students to attend school, extracurricular activities, and jobs. Removing the financial barrier of bus fares for our youth would support student success across the city. Therefore, the Detroit City Council urges the Department of Transportation to offer free transit passes for all Detroit school-age students to support a pathway for their success; and

WHEREAS, Removing transportation barriers is key to ensuring all Detroiters can participate fully in our democracy. Offering free rides to the polls on Election Day would support voter turnout and expand access, particularly for those without reliable transportation. The Detroit Department of Transportation has indicated that this initiative could be supported within its proposed budget. Therefore, the Detroit City Council urges DDOT to offer free rides to the polls on all Election Days to promote equitable access to voting for all residents; and

WHEREAS, The City of Detroit is constantly working to reduce the number of unhoused people within the city with an increase of shelters, affordable housing units, and community programs. Despite these efforts, many unhoused people have not been reached and often travel to city facilities seeking assistance. The Rosa Parks Transit Center should serve as a resource center for connecting all residents in need of assistance. City Council urges the Administration to staff the Rosa Parks Transit Center with a Community Service Coordinator, to ensure every resident gets connected to transit assistance, housing assistance, and additional city resources; and

WHEREAS, the basic purpose of bus shelters are to safeguard passengers from the elements, but shelters with vibrant colors and better designs can enhance the overall experience for passengers waiting for the bus. The 3rd district in particular lacks bus shelters at bus stops to protect passengers from blistering heat, rain, and cold. Therefore, City Council urges the Administration to increase the DDOT budget in the amount of \$300,000 for new and modern bus shelters to create a more pleasurable experience for transit riders, and

WHEREAS, Studies focused on the impact of deleterious housing and neighborhood conditions have shown a direct correlation between housing and neighborhood conditions and the well-being of its residents. The Detroit City Council encourages accountability and the enforcement of building codes in residential districts to ensure residents who properly maintain their properties are rewarded and violations that exist are swiftly corrected, and

WHEREAS, An effective, streamlined, and transparent permitting process is essential to promote economic growth, encourage investment, and facilitate timely development in the City of Detroit; therefore, City Council urges the Administration to conduct a thorough examination of the Buildings, Safety, Engineering, and Environmental Department (BSEED)'s fee schedule and implement a centralized, uniform permitting process ("One-Stop Shop") to streamline approvals, accelerate digital transformation through online applications and transparent tracking, and enhance accountability by conducting routine reviews of regulations and publicly tracking turnaround times for permits and approvals; and

WHEREAS, The Detroit Building Authority (DBA) plays a vital role in managing and overseeing the planning, design, construction, and renovation of City-owned facilities and assets, often in partnership with various departments and agencies to support public infrastructure and community investment; and recognizing the importance of equitable access to opportunities resulting from these public developments, City Council urges the Administration, through the DBA, to establish a program that provides priority access to Detroit residents, including legacy Detroiters, City of Detroit retirees, and long-term community members, in the disposition, leasing, or contracting opportunities related to DBA-managed properties and projects—thereby ensuring that those who have contributed to the city's fabric and longevity benefit directly from its ongoing redevelopment and revitalization efforts; and

WHEREAS, Compliance assistance fairs have proven to be an effective tool for helping residents and small business owners bring their properties into compliance without the burden of punitive fines. Increasing the number of these fairs can improve code compliance and prevent displacement.

Therefore, the Detroit City Council urges the Buildings, Safety Engineering, and Environmental Department (BSEED) to increase the number of compliance fairs across the city, and

WHEREAS, Multi-family housing developments, especially those that serve seniors, require consistent oversight to ensure safety, quality of life, and compliance with health and building standards. Proactive inspections are essential to protecting vulnerable residents. Therefore, the Detroit City Council urges BSEED to increase code compliance efforts and inspections at multi-family housing sites, with a particular focus on buildings serving senior citizens and

WHEREAS, the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) recently submitted a Request for Qualifications for court reporting services. Given rising operational costs, City Council urges the administration to consider consolidating court reporting services across City departments and non-departmental units like BZA to increase efficiency, reduce redundancies, and achieve cost savings while maintaining high-quality service standards.

WHEREAS, The concept of “15-20-minute neighborhoods”, has gained popularity as a model for sustainable and livable cities, emphasizing the creation of neighborhoods where residents can access essential service, amenities, and recreational facilities all within a 15-to-20-minute walk or bike ride from their homes. The implementation of this model in Detroit would represent a strategic approach to urban and improve accessibility, promote sustainable mobility, and enhance the overall well-being of residents, City Council hereby requests the Administration to conduct a study to assess the feasibility of the development of “15-20-minute neighborhoods” within the city of Detroit; and

WHEREAS, Purchasers of city-owned commercial properties have gone through the purchasing process only to learn the property is severely blighted or on the list for demolition. As a city, we should make a more concerted effort to adequately inform prospective purchasers of city-owned commercial property about the condition and status of the property. Therefore, the Detroit City Council urges the Detroit Building Authority to develop a policies and procedures for notifying purchasers of commercial property about demolition orders, back taxes and blight tickets at the point of sale; and

WHEREAS, To ensure transparency and accountability in the administration of public resources, City Council is requesting the DLBA to provide quarterly reports to the Council detailing the use of funds, project outcomes, and measurable community impact; and

WHEREAS, The Detroit Land Bank Authority (DLBA) Buyback Program was established to provide pathways for residents to regain ownership of properties through structured support and compliance. The Housing and Revitalization Department (HRD) is the City’s lead agency for housing strategy, program development, and neighborhood stabilization efforts. The administration and oversight of the Buyback Program is better aligned with HRD’s mission and existing housing initiatives, thereby enhancing program impact and accessibility for Detroit residents; thus, the Detroit City Council supports the return and full transfer of the DLBA Buyback Program to HRD and urges all departments to work collaboratively to ensure a seamless transition that prioritizes residents’ needs; and

WHEREAS, All of the city’s residential tax-reverted property is being funneled to the DLBA for disposition. As such, many of the policies related to these properties are being implemented by the authority. The appointment of a City Council member to the board would allow the City Council to continue some of its previous charter-mandated authority and influence over the development of neighborhoods in the city. Therefore, City Council strongly urges a modification to the Articles of Incorporation the Administration to appoint a Council Member to the DLBA Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, The City created the Dead, Dangerous and Diseased Tree Program which utilized prior years surplus dollars to allow residents to report their privately owned trees that needed to be trimmed or removed. Despite, the \$16.8 million allocate to this program, there is still a list of 7000 trees that need to be addressed. City Council urges the Administration to appropriate funds from surplus dollars to address an additional 2000 trees; and

WHEREAS, The city of Detroit has made significant strides in its fight against blight. In order to maintain this positive momentum, it is important to empower our citizens to engage in this effort. City Council urges the Administration to develop a Community Cleanup Program through our block clubs utilizing paid staff, residents can take greater ownership in the maintenance and beautification of the community; and

WHEREAS, Extreme weather conditions pose serious health and safety risks, particularly for vulnerable populations such as seniors, individuals with disabilities, low-income residents, and those experiencing homelessness; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the General Services Department, to expand the number and geographic distribution of warming and cooling centers throughout the City of Detroit. This expansion should include extended hours of operation, improved signage and public awareness efforts, and enhanced amenities to ensure that all residents have safe, accessible, and climate-controlled spaces during periods of extreme heat or cold; and

WHEREAS, Access to recreational opportunities is critical to health and wellbeing of our communities; it particularly improves physical and mental health, stress reduction, enhanced social connections, and increased self-esteem. City Council requests GSD to expand the hours for Crowell Recreation to include Saturdays; and

WHEREAS, Both Merit Park and Eden Park is proposed to serve as an important community space for recreation, wellness, and neighborhood engagement in Detroit, and continued investment in its development is essential to maintaining a safe, clean, and welcoming environment for residents; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the General Services Department, to allocate American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds specifically for the development of Merit Park and Eden Park. This effort will ensure the creation of a new park in an area with a high concentration of school-aged children and at-risk youth; and

WHEREAS, Rouge Park is Detroit’s largest and most treasured green spaces, providing vital recreational amenities, natural habitat, and multi-use pathways for residents across the city; however, several sections of its paved bike paths—spanning approximately six miles—are currently prone to flooding, making them unsafe and inaccessible; therefore, City Council urges

the Administration, through the General Services Department, to allocate \$2.7 million for critical repairs and strategic relocations of these vulnerable bike path segments to improve drainage, enhance safety, and ensure long-term usability of the park's recreational infrastructure for cyclists, pedestrians, and the broader community; and

WHEREAS, Detroit has scores of beautiful parks and public spaces that provide enjoyment for Detroiters of all ages and backgrounds. However, several parks are without or have nonfunctioning bathrooms, water fountains and picnic shelters. In order for Detroit to be a world-class city, we need world-class public facilities. Therefore, City Council urges the Administration to explore the cost and feasibility of installing restrooms in all public parks in Detroit; and

WHEREAS, Riverside Marina is one of Detroit's most scenic waterfront assets and a key part of the city's maritime and recreational economy. Capital investment is needed to improve the site's safety, functionality, and long-term viability. Therefore, the Detroit City Council urges the Administration to allocate \$750,000 in funding for capital improvements to Riverside Marina with existing capital improvement funding; and

WHEREAS, The City of Detroit has a bustling independent film market, with several producers and actors making an impact in the industry on several platforms, including but not limited to YouTube and Tubi. However, independent filmmakers face numerous challenges, including securing funding, navigating distribution hurdles, and competing for audience attention in a saturated market, while also maintaining creative control and navigating the complexities of the digital landscape. Therefore, our office is requesting that funding be allocated to support independent filmmakers with regard to technology, distribution and other needs; and

WHEREAS, In 2024, City Council passed the Animal Keeping Ordinance allowing licensed residents to keep limited numbers of chickens, ducks, and honeybees. To properly respond to complaints and enforce ordinance regulations, City Council urges the administration to purchase and equip two vehicles for the Department of Animal Care and Control (DACC), enhancing their ability to serve Detroit residents and promote responsible animal keeping; and

WHEREAS, American Water Resources (AWR) contracts with the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) to offer private water and sewer line protection to residents. However, numerous residents have complained about unclear policy coverage language in materials provided by AWR. City Council urges the administration to ensure AWR revises its materials, using plain, accessible language that fully explains coverage terms, conditions, and limitations to better inform and protect Detroit customers; and

WHEREAS, The Delray Community Center has proven to be a critical asset during recent emergencies; however, the facility is currently in a serious state of disrepair and Council Member Santiago-Romero is committed to prioritizing the facility's needs by urging the Administration to provide a clear plan that includes the funding sources, responsible departments, and timeline to maintain a state of good repair; that if sufficient funding is not already allocated in the 2026 fiscal year budget the intent is to allocate supplemental funding or propose budget amendments

to ensure the center can fulfill its vital role in the community and have an updated Memorandum of Understanding with a third-party operating agreement; and

WHEREAS, Educating residents on proper water drainage practices is essential to preventing flooding, reducing infrastructure strain, and promoting environmental sustainability; and greater transparency around how drainage fees are calculated can help build trust and empower residents, businesses, and institutions to make informed decisions; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD), to develop and implement a comprehensive water drainage education campaign program that informs residents, churches, and faith-based organizations about best practices, available resources, the impact of proper drainage on neighborhood and citywide water management systems, and provides clear, accessible information on how drainage fees are assessed and calculated; and

WHEREAS, Many small businesses located in Detroit's commercial corridors face challenges understanding and managing drainage fees assessed by the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD), which can impact their financial sustainability and growth; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through DWSD, to establish a program that provides small businesses with access to engineering services and technical assistance to help them understand drainage assessments, explore mitigation options, and implement cost-saving solutions that promote both economic viability and compliance with drainage regulations; and

WHEREAS, Drainage fees present a significant financial burden for small businesses and churches, many of which are already struggling to stay afloat. Relief from these costs would support our local economy and promote community resilience. Therefore, the Detroit City Council urges the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department to reduce or eliminate drainage fees for small businesses and churches; and

WHEREAS, For firefighters Augmented Reality (AR) overlays digital information onto the real world, enhancing a user's view with additional detail without replacing their surroundings. By displaying building layouts, hazards or important points of interest directly onto a firefighter's field of vision through special helmets or masks this will help the viewer stay aware of their environment. AR simulation can create realistic training environments, preparing firefighters for a wide range of scenarios with the risks associated with live drills. City Council urges the administration to equip all firefighters with AR technology, to improve response times to reduce risks and to ensure better outcomes in emergencies; and

WHEREAS, Fire Safety walks offer crucial educational resources to ensure every resident is equipped with the knowledge to stay safe in the event of a fire. Additionally, providing assistance with the installation of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. These safety walks are an integral part of safeguarding our communities and should continue to be sure residents are aware of how to protect their family; and

WHEREAS, each year more than 350,000 cardiac arrests occur outside of the hospital. If performed immediately, CPR can double or triple the chance of survival. CPR, First Aid Training and workplace safety are essential components for a secure workplace and immediate response

saves lives. For these reasons, the Detroit City Council urges the Administration to institute a CPR training program for all city of Detroit employees; and

WHEREAS, Firefighters play a crucial role in our city, serving as first responders, community helpers and educators. They face numerous physical dangers while performing their duties as well as health risks from exposure to smoke and toxic substances. Our firefighters deserve the best working and living conditions while on the job and this includes comfortable sleeping arrangements during shifts. The Administration has agreed to fund new mattresses in all of the fire houses; and

WHEREAS, The City recognizes the value of the Nurse Navigation program, which helps residents access healthcare, manage chronic conditions, and navigate medical systems. City Council urges the Administration to incorporate it as a regularly funded program within the Fire department to ensure continued support for both emergency responders and the community's health needs; and

WHEREAS, City Council urges the Administration to closely study the MI Tri Share program started by the State of Michigan and administered locally by Wayne County. The MI Tri Share program allows an employee to share the costs of childcare between the State of Michigan, the employer and the employee. If MI Tri Share is implemented for city employees, it will dramatically ease the burdens on families and contribute to the quality of life for parents and children. City Council urges the Administration to contact the appropriate State and County officials and be ready to request the appropriate funding in the 2026-27 budget; and

WHEREAS, Like many cities, Detroit continues to look for ways to better deal with the plight of unsheltered individuals and families. Due to the lack of affordable housing and overcrowded conditions in shelters, it is imperative that cities utilize all available resources to alleviate the problem. The power of Artificial Intelligence ("AI") lies in its ability to analyze vast amounts of data quickly and accurately; the use of technology and predictive analytics can identify patterns and risk factors that might lead individuals or families to lose their housing, City Council strongly urges the Administration to use AI to identify at-risk individuals, allocate resources efficiently and ultimately reduce homelessness; and

WHEREAS, The introduction of 3D printers in the city can open up a world of possibilities, driving economic growth, enhancing education, and fostering community development. By embracing this technology, Detroit can position itself as a pioneer in manufacturing and design, laying the groundwork for a prosperous future. This technology can revolutionize manufacturing by allowing businesses to produce parts and products locally, reducing the need for costly imports. Academic institutions can integrate this technology into their curriculums, providing students with hands-on experience in design, engineering, and technology. This accessibility of 3D printers in community centers and makerspaces can inspire innovation and collaboration among community members, leading to the creation of unique products and solutions tailored to local needs; and

WHEREAS, The recent population growth in Detroit has reversed nearly seven decades of decline, a direct result of the revitalization taking place in downtown and midtown; however, most new developments are largely rental properties, with much of the economic benefits going to developers. Home ownership helped make Detroit prosperous, and it can do so again. Therefore, the Detroit City Council urges the Housing and Revitalization Department to commission a study and implement strategies to encourage the development of new infill housing in Detroit's neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Detroit built the middle-class, and the middle-class built Detroit. Many middle-income Detroiters, including teachers, police officers, and auto-workers, have worked hard to maintain their homes and provide a better life for their families. It is incumbent on the City to put forward policies and programs that support and encourage the creation of generational wealth for middle-income Detroiters. With the uncertainty in federal funding, philanthropic and private dollars may be leveraged to adequately fund such programs. Therefore, City Council urges the Housing and Revitalization Department to explore the use of public-private partnerships to increase funding for programs for middle income families; and

WHEREAS, Detroit's senior population faces challenges in mobility, housing, and access to services which limits their independence and quality of life. Enhancing accessibility for seniors will promote independence, improve well-being, and reduce long-term healthcare costs. As such, City Council implores the Administration to create a Senior Accessibility Program to focus on 1) improving accessible public transportation; 2) expanding affordable, senior-friendly housing; 3) offering digital literacy and support programs; and 4) enhancing outreach for healthcare and social services; and

WHEREAS, The City of Detroit recognizes the need to improve the quality of life for residents living in properties managed by the Detroit Land Bank Authority (DLBA). Funding for home repairs is necessary to ensure safe and sustainable housing for these residents. City Council requests the allocation of funds to support home repairs for residents living in DLBA homes, with immediate action to ensure timely and effective distribution of these resources; **and**

WHEREAS, Brightmoor Scattered Home residents have endured poor living conditions, including extensive deferred maintenance and lack of transparency regarding property ownership and management. City Council urges the Administration, to use whatever power of enforcement available to compel the owner of the property to improve the conditions of the homes. The city Council further urges the Housing and Revitalization Department, to allocate Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery funds toward a downpayment assistance program, helping current renters transition into homeownership and secure greater housing stability; and

WHEREAS, Community land trusts (CLTs) are designed to create homes that remain permanently affordable, offering long-term homeownership opportunities for low-income families. Municipal partnerships with CLTs play a pivotal role in fostering and preserving affordable homeownership. Detroit is currently experiencing one of the fastest-growing home price increases in the country. Between 2020 and 2024, the average home price in Detroit skyrocketed by 72%, rising from \$46,586 to \$80,127. In contrast, the median household income

in Detroit. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, increased by only 15%, from \$32,498 in 2020 to \$38,080 in 2024. Alongside rising home prices and stagnant incomes, racial disparities in mortgage lending continue to be a major barrier. To address challenges, the City of Detroit will invest in creating a plan identifying how Community Land Trusts can help stabilize neighborhoods and ensure that housing and homeownership remains accessible for all Detroit residents; and

WHEREAS, Since 1976, City Council has utilized the Neighborhood Opportunity Fund Program (“NOF”) to provide grants for public service programs proposed by nonprofit, community service and public service organizations. As with any program, NOF should be periodically reevaluated to determine whether the needs of our communities have changed, thus changing the priorities of our community groups, stakeholders and elected officials. Therefore, City Council calls for the development of a working group to study the current program and determine if opportunities exist for City Council to have a greater role in the selection process for Neighborhood Opportunity Fund; and

WHEREAS, Detroit was once home to over two million individuals. Over time there have been population shifts resulting in large-scale demolition of residential property. As Detroit is redeveloping its residential areas it is time to reevaluate the housing needs for the city. City Council requests a community-based housing study with a focus on families and single-family homes; and

WHEREAS, The City has identified homeless services as a high priority. Additional staffing is essential to enhance outreach and support services. If funding becomes available, additional outreach staff is suggested to provide additional service; and

WHEREAS, Unexpected emergencies can threaten the survival of Detroit’s small businesses, especially those with limited cash reserves or insurance coverage. A Detroit Emergency Business Fund would provide critical relief to help businesses stay open during times of crisis. Therefore, the Detroit City Council urges the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation, through the Housing and Revitalization Department, to create a Detroit Emergency Business Fund to support small businesses encountering unforeseen disruptions; and

WHEREAS, Traditional Mainstreet Overlay Areas (“TMSO”) were established to designate commercial corridors that have potential to be, pedestrian-scale, walkable areas with a traditional urban feel. These areas focus on the creation of mixed-use buildings with first-floor pedestrian-generating uses. The Van Dyke commercial corridor could benefit focused attention; therefore, City Council urges a strategic plan be established to create TMSO in that area; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, the City of Detroit's Planning and Development Department released the Grand River/Northwest Neighborhood Framework Plan, followed by MDOT’s Grand River Avenue Streetscape project presentation in 2021. An increasing number of residents and business owners are expressing concerns over curb maintenance, vegetation management, and overall safety. City Council urges the administration and related agencies to review maintenance promises, address outstanding issues, and reassess business owners’ and customers’ satisfaction; and

WHEREAS, In 2023, the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey reported that 46.2% of Detroit's occupied housing units are rented. A 2024 University of Michigan study further showed that Detroit renters often spend over 50% of their income on rent. City Council strongly urges the administration to work with appropriate partners to establish a rent subsidy program to ease the financial burden on the city's lowest-income residents and promote stable, affordable housing; and

180. DEGC/DDA - Continuation of Education Series on Tax Incentives/Abatements and how they work. The Series would also allow for public comments (CP Sheffield).

WHEREAS, Tax incentives are a powerful tool that can stimulate economic growth and development in our city. From property tax abatements to tax credits for hiring local workers, these incentives can make a significant impact on our city's economy. There is a need for greater transparency, accountability, and public awareness of the results, value, and process for approving tax abatements and incentives. By educating residents about these incentives, we can empower them to take advantage of opportunities to improve and invest in their communities accordingly. City Council urges the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation to continue their community tax incentives education series educating the public on tax abatements and all aspects of the development process in our city; and

WHEREAS, Reporting to the City Council about the Brownfield Development projects that in the past 7 years were approved by City Council and have exceeded the 2-year period for development so that City Council can track and monitor the statuses; and

WHEREAS, City Council urges the DEGC and the Detroit DDA to report to City Council about Brownfield Development projects that were approved by City Council in the last seven years and exceeded the two-year period for development. City Council notes that this reporting is essential to enabling City Council to properly track and monitor the status of development; and

WHEREAS, Strategic marketing and outreach are essential to attracting investment, promoting business development, and supporting revitalization efforts throughout the City of Detroit; City Council urges the Administration to allocate dedicated marketing funding to the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation (DEGC), Downtown Development Authority (DDA), and other related economic development entities to enhance visibility, strengthen public-private partnerships, and support inclusive economic growth across all Detroit neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Strategic marketing and outreach are essential to attracting investment, promoting business development, and supporting revitalization efforts throughout the City of Detroit; and increased transparency and public understanding of economic development tools such as tax abatements and incentives are critical to building community trust and engagement; therefore, City Council urges the Administration to allocate dedicated marketing funding to the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation (DEGC), Downtown Development Authority (DDA), and other related economic development entities to enhance visibility, strengthen public-private partnerships, educate residents and stakeholders about abatements and incentive programs, and promote inclusive and transparent economic growth across all Detroit neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Stable housing and meaningful employment are foundational to successful reintegration for returning citizens and are key to reducing recidivism and promoting community well-being; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation (DESC), in collaboration with the Housing and Revitalization Department (HRD) and the Michigan Department of Corrections, to develop and implement a workforce housing and employment program specifically designed to support returning citizens by providing coordinated access to affordable housing, job training, and employment opportunities that foster long-term stability, economic mobility, and help reduce rates of recidivism in the City of Detroit; and

WHEREAS, Expanding access to workforce development opportunities for justice-impacted individuals is essential to promoting economic stability, reducing recidivism, and supporting successful reentry; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation (DESC), to increase its marketing budget to raise awareness of available programs and services, and to establish a formal partnership with the Michigan Department of Corrections to better connect returning citizens with employment resources, training, and support prior to and following their release; and

WHEREAS, Supporting and investing in DESC employment programs is essential for increasing the education, skills, and median household income of Detroiters. The Detroit at Work program helps residents explore and identify career paths in various fields including, but not limited to, construction and infrastructure, manufacturing and mobility, healthcare, IT and professional services. The Skills for Life program allows residents to learn and work while receiving a stipend. It helps residents acquire a GED and receive support for transportation and childcare, if needed. The Learn to Earn program provides Detroiters with up to \$200 per week for them to dedicate 20 hours of their week to preparing and getting their GED or high school diploma. City Council urges the continuation of, and adequate funding for, Skills for life and Learn to Earn programs; and

WHEREAS, Early exposure to career pathways and skill-building opportunities is critical to fostering long-term educational and professional success for Detroit's youth; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation (DESC), to expand its employment and career readiness programs to include elementary-aged students from both public and charter schools, creating age-appropriate experiences that build awareness, confidence, and interest in future workforce opportunities across the city; and

195 WHEREAS, Stable housing and meaningful employment are foundational to successful reintegration for returning citizens and are key to reducing recidivism and promoting community well-being; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation (DESC), in collaboration with the Housing and Revitalization Department (HRD), to develop and implement a workforce housing and employment program specifically designed to support returning citizens by providing coordinated access to affordable housing, job training, and employment opportunities that foster long-term stability and economic mobility; and

WHEREAS, Expanding access to workforce development opportunities for justice-impacted individuals is essential to promoting economic stability, reducing recidivism, and supporting successful reentry; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation (DESC), to increase its marketing budget to raise awareness of available programs and services, and to establish a formal partnership with the Michigan Department of Corrections to better connect returning citizens with employment resources, training, and support prior to and following their release; and

WHEREAS, City Council recognizes that approximately \$14.5 Million of ARPA funds will be available, it is the intent of City Council to evenly divide the amount between the nine members of City Council to be directed to appropriate ARPA related programs that each individual council member deems appropriate; and

WHEREAS, City Council needs to act promptly to ensure that ARPA funds are spent before the ARPA deadline, each council member will provide a list of projects to be funded within thirty days from the approval of the 2025-26 budget; and

WHEREAS, Detroit is home to some wonderful cultural institutions that have been serving our community for many decades. And at various times they are all in need of an infusion of revenue mostly for capital improvement needs. Increasing profitability does not always require a boost in revenues. We urge the Administration to explore the use of economies of scale in purchasing to cut cost through group purchasing amongst the various institutions; and

WHEREAS, Public art reflects the history, culture and values of a community and it can also provide a learning experience and enhance our surroundings. The Charles Wright Museum of African American History (CWMHAH) is home to many interesting, historic and beautiful artifacts that should be shared with the community on a daily basis. For these reasons, the City Council would like to see the city of Detroit in conjunction with the CWMHAH, develop a program where artifacts can be displayed in City owned buildings and offices, including but not limited to CAYMC, City Council offices, and the Mayor's Office; and

WHEREAS, Museums across the country are implementing various amenities in order to enhance the overall experience of the guest and also increase the likelihood of a return visit. Council urges the CHMAH to explore the creation of a gathering and dining space equipped with a commercial kitchen to serve as a place where museum patrons can gather and host events; and

WHEREAS, City Council urges an allocation to cover the costs of these services and an allocation on the and through a mid-year allocation; and

WHEREAS, The Detroit Zoo remains a cherished institution for Detroit families, students, and visitors. As the Detroit Zoological Society assumes operations, there are certain legal obligations that the City has relative to the upkeep of the institution, such as security and insurance coverage. To maintain its high service standards and safety, City Council urges the administration to allocate \$1.55 million for the Zoo in the FY 2025 and include another \$1.55 million allocation in the Administration's Errata to cover the security and insurance costs per the city's operational agreement; and

WHEREAS, The City of Detroit values transparency and champions accessibility for all residents seeking to remain civically engaged. To enhance accessibility, City Council urges the administration to provide closed captioning on all Detroit City Council meeting recordings available on the City's website, ensuring inclusive access for residents who are hearing impaired, otherwise differently abled or prefer reading meeting content; and

WHEREAS, The Eastern Market is the largest historic public market district in the U.S. and on the city's most heavily visited areas; accordingly, safe, accessible, and well-maintained sidewalks are critical to supporting pedestrian mobility, economic activity, and public safety. Therefore, City Council urges the Administration to allocate funding through the Nondepartmental cost center to support comprehensive sidewalk improvements around Eastern Market, with a focus on high-traffic corridors and areas near highway entrances and exits, to enhance walkability, improve connectivity, and ensure safe access for residents, visitors, and local businesses; and

WHEREAS, During the FY2025 budget deliberations, \$250,000 was allocated to support the Black farmers within the Eastern Market. The Eastern Market Board has been working to finalize details of a program for use of these funds. The Administration has agreed to carryforward the appropriation to the FY2026 Budget for the implementation of the plan; and

WHEREAS, The vision for the Green Grocer Program, implemented by the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation ("DEGC"), is to increase the quantity of quality grocery options in the city of Detroit by enhancing the consumer experience, increasing access to fresh food, and inspiring business innovation and new neighborhood partnerships. The City looks to eliminate food deserts and provide support of not only its farmers market but also the neighborhood farmers markets throughout the city. City Council encourages the Administration to create a partnership between the Green Grocer program and Eastern Market vendors to amplify the program for the benefit of Detroit's residents; and

WHEREAS, From 1849-1850, Ulysses S. Grant, the Civil War General and U. S. President, and his wife Julia Dent Grant made Detroit their home. The historic landmark was preserved and moved to the Michigan State Fairgrounds in 2012 and then to the Eastern Market in 2020. Increased marketing for this historical artifact is being requested; and

WHEREAS, City Council urges the Administration to closely study the MI Tri Share program started by the State of Michigan and administered locally by Wayne County. The MI Tri Share program allows an employee to share the costs of childcare between the State of Michigan, the employer and the employee. If MI Tri Share is implemented for city employees, it will dramatically ease the burdens on families and contribute to the quality of life for parents and children. City Council urges the Administration to contact the appropriate State and County officials and be ready to request the appropriate funding in the 2026-27 budget; and

WHEREAS, Detroit residents frequently raise concerns about the quality of customer service received from certain city staffers who interact with the public. Although not reflective of the entire workforce, these instances damage public trust. City Council urges the Office of the Ombudsman to establish a "secret shopper" program to assess real-time customer service interactions and evaluate the effectiveness of current employee training efforts; and

WHEREAS, On July 30, 2024, City Council passed a proportional funding ordinance to fund the Office of the Ombudsman, Office of the Auditor General, Office of the Inspector General, and the Board of Ethics. City Council commits to adopting an annual increase for the proportional funding amount for fiscal years 2026-2027 and anticipates the full Target Proportional and Equitable Funding (TEF) by fiscal year 2029-2030. This ordinance will use the TEF formula that is approved by City Council via a resolution. Pursuant to Chapter 17 of the 2019 Detroit City Code, sections 17-2-75 and 17-2-76, City Council urges the administration to prioritize funding all the City's oversight agencies to ensure they have the resources to promote accountability; and

WHEREAS, City Council strongly urges the Administration to sponsor a disparity study concerning city contracting to determine the scope of the problem and possible solutions. City Council notes that it approved \$350,000 for a disparity study in the 2023-24 budget but CRIO refused to use the funds and failed to inform City Council of its decision to ignore the direction of the legislative branch of government. City Council notes that this “phantom veto” is not allowed under the Detroit City Charter and will not be tolerated; and

WHEREAS, City Council urges the Administration to closely study the MI Tri Share program started by the State of Michigan and administered locally by Wayne County. The MI Tri Share program allows an employee to share the costs of childcare between the State of Michigan, the employer and the employee. If MI Tri Share is implemented for city employees, it will dramatically ease the burdens on families and contribute to the quality of life for parents and children. City Council urges the Administration to contact the appropriate State and County officials and be ready to request the appropriate funding in the 2026-27 budget; and

WHEREAS, returning citizens face significant challenges and barriers when reintegrating into society, including access to housing, employment, and essential services, City Council urges the Administration, through the Civil Rights, Inclusion & Opportunity Department (CRIO), to develop a comprehensive plan focused on improving services, opportunities, and support mechanisms specifically tailored to better serve returning citizens in the City of Detroit; and

WHEREAS, Establishing accessible pathways to employment in skilled trades is vital for economic empowerment, workforce development, and career readiness among Detroit youth; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Civil Rights, Inclusion & Opportunity Department (CRIO), to create and implement a skilled trades program in partnership with the Detroit Public Schools Community District (DPSCD) and other local educational institutions to engage students and provide clear, sustainable pathways toward careers in skilled trades; and

WHEREAS, City Council strongly urges the Administration to study the fiber optic infrastructure for the Hope Village Community in District 2 and determine a plan of action to provide reliable internet service to the community. City Council notes that it approved approximately \$10 Million in ARPA funds for this purpose, but the Administration refused to use the funds and re-allocated the funds to other purposes without informing City Council or the community. City Council urges the Administration to promptly send a written communication to

City Council and the community explaining its previous decisions and its future course of action; and

WHEREAS, City Council urges the Administration to enhance the Improve Detroit App to include the status of tickets and issues in the pipeline; and

WHEREAS, Smart cities utilize certain core technologies that work to collect, analyze, and act on huge amounts of data. Through machine learning algorithms, smart city systems can predict trends, such as energy consumption or traffic patterns, and implement solutions in real-time, improving public safety (e.g., smart surveillance), healthcare (e.g., predictive diagnosis), and transportation systems (e.g., autonomous vehicles). Obtaining Smart cities certification can significantly benefit Detroit by enhancing city service, improving public safety, and attracting investment. City Council urges the Administration through its Information Technology Department to make every effort to obtain the smart cities certification and continue the journey to become a leader in the use of technology to make our city a better place to live, and

WHEREAS, the sixth amendment guarantees the right to legal counsel in criminal prosecutions. Protecting this important right reduces disparities based on race, income and social status. The Detroit City Council urges funding be allocated for the purpose of providing indigent defense counsel for **those in need of advocacy and are unable to pay; and**

WHEREAS, As housing costs rise and eviction filings persist, the Office of Eviction Defense plays a critical role in helping Detroiters remain stably housed through legal assistance and tenant advocacy. Sustained support for this office is essential to our efforts to protect vulnerable residents from displacement. Therefore, the Detroit City Council urges the Administration to allocate a portion of any available or reallocated ARPA funding to support the Office of Eviction Defense in its mission to prevent housing loss and protect the rights of Detroiters in need; and

WHEREAS, We urge the Administration to create the Detroit Development Tracker website that will serve as a comprehensive, publicly accessible database that offers real-time updates on the status of development projects in the city. By clearly mapping out the progress of these initiatives through approval stages, the platform will promote transparency and foster more equitable development. The website should be created and managed by the Department of the Information and Technology with the support from other departments and feature an interactive, user-friendly interface that tracks and visualizes the following key elements of development approvals processes through detailed lists and maps; and

WHEREAS, the eviction prevention and diversion program gives a helping hand to those facing eviction. Since its inception, the program has helped thousands of residents through a three-point plan designed to help people stay in their homes. In these trying times there are many more Detroiters facing evictions and in need of assistance, therefore City Council has allocated an additional 1 million in funding to support this vital program; and

WHEREAS, City Council urges the Law Department to continue its efforts to promptly supply information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and to use all available resources, including legal interns, to reach this goal; and

WHEREAS, City Council urges the Law Department to study the possibility of expanding the Right To Counsel program to include legal assistance to residents facing debt collection actions; and

WHEREAS, The Serve Detroit program, led by the Mayor's Office, is a vital initiative that engages residents, community groups, and volunteers in civic projects that enhance the quality of life in Detroit neighborhoods; the program provides critical year-round services such as snow removal, grass cutting, and landscaping through a network of strategically located tool sheds across the city that supply the equipment and resources needed to complete these projects; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Mayor's Office, to expand the Serve Detroit program by increasing funding, staffing, and outreach capacity to support a broader range of volunteer-led initiatives, with a particular focus on expanding lawn care and landscaping services for seniors, individuals with disabilities, and other vulnerable residents. This expansion should deepen partnerships with neighborhood associations, block clubs, and community organizations to strengthen civic engagement, promote public safety, and foster neighborhood pride across Detroit; **and**

WHEREAS, The City of Detroit's Phase 3 Solar Initiative represents a critical step toward advancing environmental sustainability, reducing long-term energy costs, and promoting equitable access to clean energy in historically underserved neighborhoods; this phase is focused on bringing solar infrastructure and benefits to neighborhoods including O'Shea and Mt. Olivet, with the goal of repurposing underutilized land for solar energy generation while creating local jobs, improving air quality, and building climate resilience; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the Mayor's Office, to expand the Phase 3 Solar Initiative by identifying additional eligible sites, securing necessary funding and strategic partnerships, and ensuring robust community engagement in the planning and implementation process to maximize environmental, economic, and social benefits for Detroit residents; and

WHEREAS, City Council has confirmation authority for four (4) of the members of the five- (5) member board. Although under the Intergovernmental Agreement the Mayor chooses all four (4) members, the Mayor has agreed to allow City Council to choose one (1) of the members. City Council requests that the Mayor allow for the appointment of a sitting Council Member to the DLBA Board of Directors, and

WHEREAS, in the budget presentation from the Detroit Land Bank Authority it was discovered that the landbank had an unassigned fund balance of at least \$31 million and given the priorities of the City Council it was determined that the subsidy of \$10 million that the mayor proposed for the Land Bank should be reallocated to other higher priority items and the Land Bank should utilize its fund balance to carry out its mission, duties and responsibilities to manage the properties that it owns. The board of directors and hierarchy of Land Bank have agreed with this result; and

WHEREAS, the Detroit Land Bank has developed a buyback program where in persons who have resided in properties that have been acquired by the Land Bank through foreclosure, prior owners or occupants can buy back the properties from the Land Bank. Due to the problems administering the program, the Council strongly urges HRD to assume responsibility for the program particularly in matters involving the public; and

WHEREAS, the city has for the last several years run the nuisance abatement program through the Land Bank Authority. This program should be terminated and the activity returned to the BSEED and the Law Department; and

WHEREAS, the city's decision to allow for first right of refusal of the Land Bank for foreclosed property through the county treasurer's office should be terminated and land should be obtained and managed by the city's Planning and Development Department in the manner that exists prior to the creation of the Land Bank; and

WHEREAS, Public art is a powerful tool for community expression, education, and inclusion, and increasing disability representation in public spaces is essential to fostering a more equitable and accessible city; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the General Services Department, to implement a Disability Visibility Project focused on incorporating the experiences, stories, and contributions of individuals with disabilities into the City's public art walls. This initiative should engage local disabled artists and advocates in the design and creation process, and serve as a platform for elevating awareness, celebrating diversity, and promoting inclusivity—this item shall also be included in the Administration's closing resolution; and

WHEREAS, Ensuring the safety and security of residents and visitors in Detroit's public parks is essential to encouraging community use, promoting recreation, and deterring illegal activity, including persistent issues such as illegal dumping that compromise the cleanliness and usability of these shared spaces; the Administration has already begun installing surveillance cameras in parks across the city as part of its public safety strategy; therefore, City Council urges the Administration, through the General Services Department, to continue the installation of surveillance cameras in parks citywide, with a particular emphasis on expanding coverage in larger parks such as Rouge Park. This continued investment in surveillance infrastructure will enhance public safety, support law enforcement and code enforcement efforts, deter illegal dumping, and foster a cleaner, safer, and more welcoming environment in Detroit's green spaces; and

WHEREAS, The decision to increase the funding for Detroit's Music Hall expansion by \$ 1 Million promises to enhance cultural offerings, stimulate economic activity and strengthen community bonds. With additional funding, Music Hall can expand its facilities to host a wider variety of performances, workshops, and events, and

WHEREAS, the introduction of a guaranteed income program has the potential to transform lives and revitalize communities. Similar programs in other cities have shown that families can use this supplemental income to pay for groceries or avoid eviction, returning citizens can use this income for transportation needs or to pay rent. A guaranteed income program provides a financial cushion ensuring that individuals can afford essentials like food, housing and healthcare City Council urges

the administration to institute a guaranteed income program to reduce poverty, foster economic stability, and create a brighter future for our residents; and

WHEREAS, the Detroit City Council created the Detroit Tenants Rights Commission (DTRC) to assist in the development of policies that will increase stability, opportunities, safety, and wellness for residential tenants in the city, and ensure inclusion, representation, and equity for tenants in the legislative process. As the Detroit Tenants' Rights Commission ramps up, it is important that residents know of its existence and its charge. City Council urges the administration to make additional funds available to DTRC for extensive public outreach and marketing, and

WHEREAS, the Detroit City Council recognizes the critical importance of improving literacy rates across the City of Detroit, particularly among youth and our underserved population, City Council supports investment to bolster the scope and impact of a literacy study, enabling it to serve as a comprehensive, actionable roadmap for addressing literacy challenges in our city; and

WHEREAS, City Council urges the Administration to find appropriate funding through the State of Michigan or charitable foundations for the excellent after school programing at RacketUp, located in District 2. City Council notes that efforts to fund this program through ARPA were blocked by the Administration during budget deliberations yet the RacketUp program offers excellent after school programing and its students achieve academic excellence and deserves our support; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that the use of air taxis and drones will eventually play a significant role in the future of freight delivery. As industry and the FAA develop rules and infrastructure it will be important for municipalities to remain abreast of this technology. Council requests the administration study the use of air taxies and drones for freight delivery and its use specifically in the city of Detroit; and

WHEREAS, Equitable access to public resources is a fundamental right, and ensuring that all Detroit Public Library (DPL) facilities are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities is essential to fostering inclusive, welcoming spaces for learning, community engagement, and personal development; and while some library buildings may be grandfathered under older accessibility regulations, the City should make a conscious and proactive decision to invest in modern accessibility upgrades—such as the installation of wheelchair ramps and other universally designed features—to meet the needs of all users; therefore, City Council urges the Detroit Public Library to prioritize and implement ADA accessibility improvements across its branches using its existing fund balance, to remove physical and structural barriers, go beyond minimum compliance, and expand equitable access for all Detroiters; and

WHEREAS, Brightmoor Scattered Home residents have endured poor living conditions, including extensive deferred maintenance and lack of transparency regarding property ownership and management. City Council urges the administration, to use whatever power of enforcement available to compel the owner of the property to improve the conditions of the homes. The city Council further urges the Housing and Revitalization Department, to allocate Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery funds toward a downpayment assistance program, helping current renters transition into homeownership and secure greater housing stability; and

WHEREAS, Since implemented in Detroit in 2023, the Community Violence Intervention (CVI) groups have made a significant positive impact on public safety across the city. CVI programs have been proven to reduce violence by up to 70% in high crime areas, consistently achieving crime reduction results that are on par with or surpassing those in other parts of the city. As support continues, we urge the Administration to continue to employ CVI groups in all areas where significant violent crimes occur and that a crime strategy plan is created based on best practices in reducing crime in these areas; and

WHEREAS, City Council in its duty to be responsible stewards of the City's budget has been conservative in allocating funding, as such the Body does not completely fund all its priorities, so in light of the historic surpluses the City has been experiencing City Council strongly urges the Administration to apply future increases in revenues and General Fund surpluses to City Council's unfunded priorities articulated in this Closing Resolution. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED, City Council has appropriated \$75,000 to the DPD to create a pilot program for disabled community members prone to wandering. Additionally, City Council urges department

RESOLVED, The Asset Protection Program was created to assist Detroit residents in navigating the probate process so that family-owned property can be properly transferred to relatives after the death of a loved one. This program has helped these residents to take advantage of the City programs by establishing proper ownership. City Council allocates \$200,000 for the continuation of the Asset Protection Program; **BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, The 0% Interest Loan Program has been a great opportunity for residents to make improvements to their homes. However, because of the structure of the program and the down payment requirements, some residents have been unable to take advantage of the program. Therefore, \$200,000 has been allocated to redesign the program and create a robust marketing campaign; **and**

RESOLVED, The Detroit Historical Museum is a vital institution preserving the rich history and cultural legacy of the City of Detroit and the Museum requires significant capital improvements to continue providing high-quality exhibits, educational programming, and safe public access. The City recognizes the importance of supporting historical and cultural institutions as part of its commitment to community enrichment and tourism development; therefore, City Council hereby allocates a one-time capital funding appropriation of \$975,000 to the Detroit Historical Museum; **BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, The Detroit City Council has conducted thorough and inclusive budget hearings to ensure that the fiscal year FY2026 budget reflects the priorities, needs, and voices of Detroit residents. The Council recognizes the essential role of At-Large City Council Members in representing the entire city and supporting citywide initiatives, community engagement, and constituent services. The Council hereby increases the overall budget allocation for each of the two At-Large City Council Member offices by \$100,000; **BE IT FINALLY**

RESOLVED, That the City Clerk is directed to provide a copy of resolution to the Financial Review Commission, Mayor Michael Duggan, The Chief Financial Officer, the Finance Director,

the Budget Director, Wayne County Executive Warren Evans and all agencies, departments and divisions of the City of Detroit.