

David Whitaker, Esq.
Director
Irvin Corley, Jr.
Executive Policy Manager
Marcell R. Todd, Jr.
Director, City Planning
Commission
Janese Chapman
Director, Historic Designation
Advisory Board

John Alexander
LaKisha Barclift, Esq.
Timarie DeBruhl
Paige Blessman
M. Rory Bolger, Ph.D., FAICP
Victory Corley
Lisa DiChiera
Eric Fazzini, AICP
Willene Green
Christopher Gulock, AICP

City of Detroit
CITY COUNCIL
LEGISLATIVE POLICY DIVISION
208 Coleman A. Young Municipal Center
Detroit, Michigan 48226
Phone: (313) 224-4946 Fax: (313) 224-4336

Ayesha Harris
Marcel Hurt, Esq.
Sandra L. Jeffers
Kimani Jeffrey
Anthony W. L. Johnson
Phillip Keller, Esq.
Edward King
Kelsey Maas
Jamie Murphy
Dolores Perales-Lara
Analine Powers, Ph.D.
W. Akilah Redmond
Renee Short
Floyd Stanley
Thomas Stephens, Esq.
Theresa Thomas
Janice Tillmon
Ian Tomashik
Emberly Vick

TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: 7/7/2026

RE: **RESOLUTION REGOGNIZING DISABILITY PRIDE MONTH**

City Council Member Denzel Anton McCampbell has requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) produce a resolution recognizing Disability Pride Month in the City of Detroit.

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING DISABILITY PRIDE MONTH

- WHEREAS** Disability Pride Day originated in the United States in July of 1990 to commemorate the passing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and it has since been expanded to Disability Pride Month celebrated every July; and
- WHEREAS** Since the first Disability Pride Day celebration in Boston in 1990 the event has continuously grown, with Chicago hosting the first Disability Pride Parade in 2004 and currently Disability Pride Month is celebrated across the U.S. and around the globe; and
- WHEREAS** Both the ADA and Disability Pride Month are the result of decades of grassroots advocacy by individuals who demanded an end to discrimination and for people with disabilities to have equal access to public places, education, employment, and more as a right; and
- WHEREAS** According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), over 70 million people in the U.S. reported having a disability, which represents 1 in 4 U.S. adults;¹ and
- WHEREAS** The U.S. Census estimates that nearly 16% of Detroit’s population under 65 has a disability,² and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has estimated that roughly 1 in 3 Michiganders has a disability;³ and
- WHEREAS** The 2026 theme of Disability Pride Month is “The World Works Better With Us,” which emphasizes that when people with disabilities are included, respected, and supported, communities function more effectively across all aspects of society; and
- WHEREAS** This year’s theme is crucial to emphasize as individuals with disabilities in the U.S. are currently facing a number of challenges including new sweeping Medicaid eligibility requirements that are likely to cause people with disabilities to lose coverage, the shift of special education oversight from the Department of Education to the Department of Health and Human Services, and deep cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Section 8 housing vouchers, and the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) programs; and
- WHEREAS** After decades of gradual progress toward inclusivity, recent shifts in the federal government signal a reversal of this trend with the White House canceling diversity programs and workplace accommodation policies for disabled federal workers, discontinuing sign language interpretation in official communications, removing disability-related information from federal websites, as well a recent memo from the Department of Justice that has stoked fears of a return to a policy of institutionalization of individuals with disabilities;⁴ and

¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2024/s0716-Adult-disability.html>

² <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/detroitcitymichigan/PST045225>

³ https://www.michigan.gov/-/media/Project/Websites/mdhhs/Folder4/Folder30/Folder3/Folder130/Folder2/Folder230/Folder1/Folder330/MiBRFSS_Disability_Newsletter.pdf?rev=a7b76ab1ff60402fae6aef1f558a0fd2

⁴ <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/trumps-actions-signal-a-move-toward-institutionalizing-people-with-disabilities-advocates-warn>

WHEREAS Disability Pride Month is a time to recognize and appreciate the value of all people and to appreciate that disabilities are a part of human diversity that intersects with every demographic, meaning that efforts to increase accessibility are a shared responsibility of everyone and must be as inclusive as possible; and

WHEREAS Disability Pride Month should be a catalyst to amplify the voices of people with disabilities and to prioritize accessibility across all systems and structures; and

WHEREAS It is the shared responsibility of all Detroiters to end the stigma surrounding disabilities, and that begins by using respectful language when talking to and about the disabled community; and

WHEREAS The Detroit City Council recognizes the importance of fostering an inclusive and accessible community for all, including residents, visitors, workers, business owners, etc., and celebrates the leadership and advocacy of local disability rights organizations, activists, veterans, and allies; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED The Detroit City Council hereby recognizes July as Disability Pride Month and encourages residents to celebrate the diversity, resilience, and contributions of people with disabilities; **NOW BE IT FINALLY**

RESOLVED That the Detroit City Clerk provide a copy of this resolution to the Mayor, Detroit Disability Power, Disability Network Wayne County Detroit, The Arc Detroit, The Michigan Disability Rights Coalition, and Disability Rights Michigan.