

*October 9, 2018  
New Business*

**BUDGET,  
FINANCE, AND  
AUDIT STANDING  
COMMITTEE**

REFER TO COUNCIL PRESIDENT BRENDA JONES' OFFICE  
TO REFER TO BUDGET, FINANCE, AND AUDIT STANDING COMMITTEE

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

RE: Status of Council Member Scott Benson submitting memorandum relative to Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History (CHWMAAH) (REFERRED TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND COMMUNITY SERVICES STANDING COMMITTEE ON 10-4-18) REFER TO PRESIDENT'S OFFICE TO REFER TO BUDGET, FINANCE, AND AUDIT STANDING COMMITTEE, PER COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM SHEFFIELD (*Moved by Castaneda-Lopez; President Pro Tem Sheffield and Member Castaneda-Lopez were in favor; Motion passes 2-0.*) (SB/mgw)



*[Handwritten signature]*  
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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Michael Duggan, Mayor

**FROM:** Hon. Scott Benson, City Council District 3

*[Handwritten initials: SB]*

**CC:** Hon. Mary Sheffield, City Council Pro Tempore, Chair, Neighborhood & Community Service Standing Committee  
Hon. Janee Ayers, Chair, Budget & Finance Standing Committee  
John Hill, CFO  
Hon. Janice Winfrey, City Clerk  
David Whitaker, Director, LPD  
Stephanie Washington, City Council Liaison  
**VIA:** Hon. Brenda Jones, City Council President

**DATE:** 20 Sep 2018

**RE:** CHWMAAH

As per Sharon Rose's response memo dtd. 14 Mar 2018, please identify and allocate \$3.5 million in the FY 2019-20 budget to fund the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History. This is a \$1.6 million increase over the FY 2018-19 budget. The increase should be used in the following manner: \$1.1 million should be classified as a capital improvement for the repair of the museum's roof and the additional \$500k should be used for operations. My office will work with the OCFO to identify \$1.6 million to fund this new expenditure.

As we look to care for our cultural gems it becomes ever more critical that we provide the proper financial support for our institutions and ensure these organizations are able to provide programing to the Metro-Detroit region's residents without fear of the roof falling in, or the inability to provide a safe and comfortable environment. I believe it is a regional shortcoming that this cultural gem, designed to tell the story of America's African descendants, does not have a dedicated revenue stream, i.e. millage, like its neighbor the Detroit Institute of Arts. Ms. Rose's memo response to the museum's capital improvement need is inserted below.

- 1) **Please briefly explain the new capital funding requests MAAH is planning to implement in FY 2019. Please provide which Appropriation/Cost Center the new initiatives will affect in FY 2019.**

The museum desires to replace the 21-year old roof system that is original to the building. The roof has exceeded it life expectancy and is exhibiting signs of shrinkage and deterioration. Once the membrane begins to degrade to this point, the seams beneath the ballast stone become more stressed, creating the potential for large seam failures. Unfortunately with a single -ply, ballasted EPDM roof system, there are no options for restoring the roof and repairs/maintenance costs are typically expensive due to the amount of labor required to find the leak area, remove the ballast stone, properly clean the membrane, and finally make the repair. Once the roof system reaches the end of its life, there are no other options other than replacement. There would be considerable cost, structural and potential health issues if the roof leaks are not addressed. Although some roof repairs have just been made, it was only designed to get the museum by until the necessary roof replacement is started. The total roof replacement cost is estimated at between \$900,000 and \$1.2 million dollars...

If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact my office at, 313-224-1198

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ENTERED OCT 04 2018 *Refer to President's office for referral to BFA Committee*