

FORMAL

2-26-19

**PLANNING AND  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
STANDING  
COMMITTEE**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Maurice Cox, Director  
 Planning and Economic Development

FROM: Roy McCalister, Jr., Member  
 Public Health and Safety Standing Committee

DATE: February 20, 2019

RE: Opportunity Zones in the City of Detroit

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Councilman McCalister is requesting the Planning Department provide details as to the potential to establish Opportunity Zones in the City of Detroit. Under the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act Opportunity Zones were created to incentivize private investment in low-income communities nationwide that have been cut off from capital and experienced a lack of business growth.

According to MSHDA, "There are 1,152 eligible census tracts with the maximum of 25% or 288 of these tracts allowed to qualify per program rules." Councilman McCalister is asking for a report relative to the administration's plans, in conjunction with Governor Whitmer's office, to pursue such zones in the City and where those zones would likely be established. Additionally, if such plans have not yet been devised we request a report regarding when and how plans for the establishment of Opportunity Zones in Detroit might begin to be developed.

Sincerely,

Roy McCalister, Jr.

CC: Clerk's Office  
 Colleagues

CITY CLERK 20 FEB 2019 PM4:40