

Referrals
4/16/19

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

City of Detroit

CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL PRESIDENT BRENDA JONES



MEMORANDUM

TO: Lawrence Garcia, Corporation Counsel
City of Detroit

CC: Honorable Colleagues
Stephanie Washington, Legislative Liaison

FROM: Council President Brenda Jones *BJ*

DATE: April 16, 2019

RE: Community Investment Opinion/Ordinance

Oftentimes, significant investments into community initiatives are limited to the utilization of grant dollars due to various legal restrictions. However, the City of Detroit utilizes General Fund dollars for programs such as the Bridging Neighborhood Program where the dollars for rehab are not provided directly to constituents. Alternatively, the services are provided through the procurement of rehabilitation services. This also occurs with the utilization of compliance fee dollars for investment into workforce development. Please provide a report on the legality of the utilization of general fund dollars through the procurement of various services to support neighborhood investments such as:

- Home Improvement and Repair
- Rental Compliance Upgrades and Pest Mitigation
- Small Business Investments
- Employment training and preparation
- Foreclosure prevention

Additionally, please work with my office, the legislative policy division, and the Office of the Chief Financial Officer to draft a community investment ordinance creating the following:

- Rental Management Fund to invest funding for maintenance, upgrades, lead remediation and pest control for rental units.
- Residential Rehab Fund to invest funding to assist homeowners with residential rehab, pest control, lead remediation and other home improvement mechanisms.
- Detroit Employment and Contracting Fund to invest funding to prepare residents and contractors to qualify for contracting and employment opportunities utilizing tax payer dollars through outreach, training and other investment mechanisms.
- Skilled Trades Readiness Fund to invest funding for assistance with eliminating barriers related to skilled trades.
- Small Business Investment Fund to invest funding to provide small business development assistance
- Foreclosure Prevention Fund to invest funding to provide residents with attaining legal assistance to prevent foreclosures
- Recreation Fund to invest funding into recreation programs, building upgrades, and other recreation investments

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2

MEMORANDUM

TO: Lawrence Garcia, Corporation Counsel
City of Detroit Law Department

CC: Honorable Colleagues
Louise Jones, Senior City Clerk
Stephanie Washington, Legislative Liaison

FROM: Council President Brenda Jones

DATE: April 16, 2019

RE: **Vacancy Ordinance Request**

Please draft an ordinance requiring annual reporting on departmental vacancies by December 1 of each year detailing: (1) what positions were filled and the dollar amount associated with each filled position and; (2) what positions are vacant and the dollar amount associated with each vacant positions.