

Referrals
1-28-20

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



MEMORANDUM

TO: Alvin Horhn, City Assessor
Lawrence Garcia, Corporation Counsel

FROM: Scott Benson, City Council District 3

CC: Hon. Janice Winfrey, City Clerk
David Whitaker, Director, LPD
David Massaron, CFO
Stephanie Washington, Liaison to Mayor's Office

VIA: Brenda Jones, Detroit City Council President

DATE: 16 Jan 2020

RE: **\$600M IN PROPERTY TAX OVERCHARGES**

Please provide answers to the following questions regarding the *Detroit News* report, Detroit Homeowners Overtaxed \$600 Million, Jan. 9, 2020.

1. The CFO and Assessor's offices declined to confirm the \$600m overtax amount. If this amount is believed to be inaccurate, please provide an amount that both offices agree upon.
2. Using the reported \$600M as the overtax amount please itemize what each taxing jurisdiction was overpaid as a result of the overtax. I.e. DPSCD - \$230M, Library - \$7M, Wayne County - \$30M, etc.
3. Please provide a privileged opinion to my office on the City's ability to force repayment from all taxing jurisdictions that received overpayments from Detroit residents.

My concern is, while the City of Detroit erroneously based its property tax bills on over assessments, all recipients of the tax payments must share in the culpability of restitution, as they also received and utilized their tax payments to fund governmental operations. Any discussions to identify a solution should be done collectively, and liabilities for any implemented solution(s) should be shared proportionately with all taxing jurisdictions.

Please provide responses to these questions by 1 Feb 2020. Reach out to my office at 313-224-1198 with any questions.

SRB

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City of Detroit
CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL PRESIDENT BRENDA JONES

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kevin Johnson, President and Chief Executive Officer
DEGC

Katy Trudeau, Deputy Director
Planning and Development

Dave Massaron, Chief Financial Officer
City of Detroit

CC: Honorable Colleagues
Janice Winfrey, City Clerk
Stephanie Washington, Legislative Liaison

FROM: Council President Brenda Jones *BJ*

DATE: January 22, 2020

RE: Tax Revenue Report

During the review of the FY 2019-2020 Budget, I requested a report regarding the fiscal impact of development from 2014 until present. Please provide a report within two (2) weeks on all revenue including but not limited to property tax revenue, income tax revenue, and compliance fees received from development from 2014 until present. Please detail how those dollars have been allocated.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Lawrence Garcia, Corporation Counsel
City of Detroit

Dave Massaron, Chief Financial Officer
City of Detroit

CC: Honorable Colleagues
Janice Winfrey, City Clerk
Stephanie Washington, Legislative Liaison

FROM: Council President Brenda Jones *BG*

DATE: January 22, 2020

RE: Reimbursement Fund Opinion

Please provide a legal opinion on the City of Detroit's ability to create a reimbursement fund that would provide residents that were overtaxed during the years of 2010-2016 annual stipends over an extended period of time.