

May 4, 2020

To: Honorable Brenda Jones, Council President

RE: Detroit Charter Revision Commission amended FY 20-21 budget

Per the request of the Council on May 1, 2020 for the Detroit Charter Revision Commission to make further amendments to the Commission's proposed FY 20-21 budget based on the proposed budget of Mayor Duggan. The DCRC understands that due to COVID 19 the City claims to be considering budget cuts for all department's and agencies. We are unclear as to why the DCRC is faced with 70% slashing of our budget opposed to the standard 5% offered to other Commission's and City departments. As stated repeatedly to Council, this would be in violation of HRCA S. 117.19 which expressly states in the first three words of the Statute...“The Legislative body”...shall provide for the compensation of the Charter members and the money for the expense thereof,

In spite of the DCRC's being diametrically opposed to violating HRCA S. 117.19, we have taken into account some of member Benson's cost effective demands. Our Commission identified amendments for line items #35, 36, 37, and 39 that member Benson zeroed out of our budget in his proposal with the Mayor's office. Benson's assurances that the aforementioned line items would be zeroed out of our budget and performed "in house" was supported and negotiated with Deputy Director Tanya Stoudemire, which was the pathway to our amended budget of \$469,934.00, a 44% reduction. However, this amendment will only allow DCRC to fulfill its duties, with the City's written commitment to perform services and assume the cost.

Thank you for your time and the DCRC looks forward to an amenable resolution that is respectful to the body and our constituents.

Respectfully,

Nicole Small, Vice Chair, Detroit Charter Revision Commission

May 4, 2020

Cc: Hon. Mary Sheffield, Pro Temp,
Hon. Janee Ayers, At Large,
Hon. James Tate, Hon. Roy McCalister, Jr.,
Hon. Scott Benson,
Hon. Andre L. Spivey,
Hon. Raquael Castaneda-Lopez,