

Resolution supporting restoration of the
Eastside Colts 2025 Season

- Whereas, Youth sports are vital to ensuring children learn social and life skills that help make them productive and thriving members of society. Organized sports offer positive ways for youth to spend time and energy as they grow up. Competition provides for healthy and structured activities while allowing youth to learn important lessons about fairness, personal responsibility, group dynamics, and sportsmanship, as well as how to handle defeat and victory; and
- Whereas, The Police Athletic League, in partnership with the Detroit Police Department, was founded to provide recreational, educational, and mentoring opportunities for youth achievement. PAL deserves accolades for its organized sports leagues that have benefitted generations of Detroit youth and their families, including the sports and cheer teams for the Eastside Colts; and
- Whereas, The Eastside Colts and their cheer team recently saw their 2025 season suspended by PAL. The teams, which are comprised of youth ages 12 and under, were looking forward to playing with their friends and teammates and having a great season. Sadly, the Colts season was cancelled due to the appalling behavior and actions of adults, who rightly have been suspended. However, the children did nothing wrong and are suffering an unjust punishment. The cancelation of the season is unfair to the youth; it also teaches the wrong lesson about standards of personal behavior and responsibility; and
- Whereas, Research shows youth participation in organized play and learning activities lessen the risks associated with crime, especially the gun violence that is now a major public health threat in Detroit and throughout the United States. Restoration of the Colts season after the installation of new coaches is in the public interest, as well as in the best interest of the impressionable youth and their families. It also aligns with the long-held mission of PAL in serving and uplifting community youth. Therefore be it
- Resolved, The Board of Police Commissioners calls upon the Police Athletic League to work with the Eastside Colts on an equitable resolution to restore the 2025 season for the team by ensuring the Colts have new coaches committed to PAL values for youth sports.