



## CITY OF DETROIT

MARY WATERS

COUNCIL MEMBER AT-LARGE

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# MEMORANDUM

**To:** David Whitaker, Legislative Policy Division

**Through:** Mary Sheffield, City Council President

**From:** Council Member At-Large Mary Waters submitting memorandum relative to

**Date:** 6/8/2023

**RE:** Establishing Fines for Businesses Operating Without a License and Auditing Gas Stations Receipts

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### SUMMARY:

Our office would like to understand the following as it relates to businesses in the City of Detroit:

- We understand that businesses operating without a valid license can face misdemeanor violations that ultimately could result in the business being seized; however, we would like to know if it is possible to add fines on top of the misdemeanor charges
- If it is possible to fine businesses operating illegally, what would an appropriate fee schedule be to keep us in the range of what similar municipalities do?
- Please explain to us what audits are done on the receipts of gas stations operating in the City of Detroit and what capabilities, if any, the City may have to do further audits on the tax returns of these businesses to identify malfeasance

**DEPARTMENTAL CONTACT:**

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