



City of Detroit Detroit City Council

FROM THE DESK OF
Mary Waters, Member At-Large
2 Woodward Avenue, Suite 1340 Detroit, MI 48226

Memorandum

TO: David Whitaker, Legislative Policy Division
THROUGH: Mary Sheffield, City Council President
FROM: Mary Waters, Councilmember At-Large
RE: Community-based Housing Needs Study

Our office would like to direct the Housing and Revitalization Department to conduct an updated study of the housing needs of our community. Unlike the previous report from 2016, we would like this to be based on community needs rather than market trends. This report should focus on identifying not only the market conditions that impact housing construction and affordability, but also provide an overview of the current volume of housing in the city, the type and size of each housing unit, the age/quality of the units, and identify what types of units the city has too much of/too little of for the future.

In order to do this, our office would like to understand:

- What authority does Council have to direct this report be created? Is it something that can be done via memo, does it require an ordinance, or would we need to engage the Administration?
- This report will take a significant amount of time and money to complete: is this something HRD can take on or does Council need to act to provide them with scope/funding to get this done?
- Could HRD provide us with a cost estimate as well as time needed to complete such a study?