



City of Detroit
Detroit City Council
Council Member Angela Whitfield Calloway
District 2

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mark Schrupp
Detroit-Wayne Port Authority

FROM: Council Member Angela Whitfield-Calloway *AWC*

DATE: March 20, 2023

RE: 2023-2024 Port Authority Budget Questions

The office of Council Member Angela Calloway respectfully submits the following questions to the Detroit and Wayne County Port Authority as a part of the 2023-2024 budget hearing process.

Detroit and Wayne County has an immeasurable asset in the Detroit River that is wholly underutilized in commercial, recreational, and public use. Detroit and Wayne County has an opportunity to not only open both investment in its Green Economy assets and our BLUE ECONOMY Assets. As of last year, the global index for Blue Economy investment will reach \$3trillion US Dollars globally. Albeit Wayne County and the City of Detroit would be a fraction of that, but nonetheless we are a vital piece of the greater GREAT LAKE Blue Economy.

a. Question: What is the port authority's plan improve and invest in our Blue Economy?

The Detroit River spans 25 Miles of Wayne County. Its most Northern point is Grosse Point and our most Southern Point is the Lake Erie Metro Park where the Huron River meets the Detroit River. Along the 25mile stretch of river in Wayne County, there are over 14 parks including the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge and our crown jewel Belle Isle:

a. Question: Has the Port Authority ever thought about opening access to our river by creating a county run Ferry System?

b. Question: What would be the cost of a feasibility study for a Ferry Service between Detroit's Atwater Dock and Grosse Ile?

Our future Ferry system can serve a dual purpose of both recreational use and public transit use. I would imagine it would be a national and world tourist attraction and would allow millions of people to see our great city and county.