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TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director 
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: July 3, 2023

**RE: RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING DETROIT RESIDENT DISCOUNT PROGRAM
FOR GOLF COURSES**

Council President Mary Sheffield requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) draft a resolution establishing a Detroit Resident Discount Program for all city-owned golf courses, similar to the programs that exist in other proximate municipalities.

Please contact us if we can be of any further assistance.

BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT MARY SHEFFIELD

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING DETROIT RESIDENT DISCOUNT PROGRAM FOR GOLF COURSES

- WHEREAS,** According to the Detroit City Charter, the City is responsible for instituting programs, services and activities addressing the needs of our community and providing for the public peace, health and safety of persons living in Detroit; and
- WHEREAS,** Across the state of Michigan, municipalities commonly provide discounts for their residents at city-owned golf courses; and
- WHEREAS,** According to a report from the Western Michigan University Journal of Sociology & Social Welfare, the percentage of Detroit residents engaging in adequate physical activity is lower than for Michigan residents generally, which is due to several factors including poor infrastructure and a lack of recreational activities in some Detroit neighborhoods¹; and
- WHEREAS,** Individuals who do not engage in adequate physical activity are more likely to experience a wide variety of negative health outcomes over time; and
- WHEREAS,** The area median income in Detroit is roughly around \$30,000, which is significantly lower than in the surrounding areas and in Michigan generally; and
- WHEREAS,** Providing a resident discount to Detroiters at golf courses owned by the City would help to alleviate some structural barriers for Detroit residents who wish to utilize the City's golf courses but who may not be able to afford current rates; and
- WHEREAS,** A resident discount at City-owned golf courses would also encourage Detroit residents to engage in more physical activity, which is likely to have a positive impact on public health; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**
- RESOLVED,** The Detroit City Council urges the General Services Department to implement a Detroit resident discount program for all City-owned golf courses; **THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY**
- RESOLVED,** That the Detroit City Clerk is directed to send this resolution to Sandra Stahl, Director of the General Services Department and to Mayor Mike Duggan.

¹ Daniel J. Rose, *Physical Activity in Two Low-Income Detroit Neighborhoods: Disentangling Human Agency from Social Structure* - <https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=4309&context=jssw>

