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TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: David Whitaker, Director
Legislative Policy Division Staff 

DATE: November 21, 2021

RE: **RESOLUTION URGING THE ADMINISTRATION TO IMPLEMENT A
COMPREHENSIVE AIR QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAM**

Councilmember Raquel Castañeda-López requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) draft a RESOLUTION URGING THE ADMINISTRATION TO IMPLEMENT A COMPREHENSIVE AIR QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAM.

Attached, please find our draft of the aforementioned resolution.

Attachment

RESOLUTION BY COUNCILMEMBER RAQUEL CASTAÑEDA-LÓPEZ

RESOLUTION URGING THE ADMINISTRATION TO IMPLEMENT A COMPREHENSIVE AIR QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAM

WHEREAS, The mission of the Detroit City Council is to promote the economic, cultural and physical welfare of Detroit's citizens through Charter-mandated legislative functions; and

WHEREAS, It is well documented that Detroit residents endure some of the worst air quality in the state, and as a result, suffer from greater health impacts, including exposures to O₃, PM_{2.5}, SO₂, and NO₂ that result in premature deaths, increased emergency department visits for asthma, increased cancer rates, and school/work loss days, representing over \$6.5 billion annually in monetized impacts; and

WHEREAS, In Detroit, low-income communities of color experience the greatest harm. Given that Detroit residents are already disproportionately impacted, it is particularly concerning about the recent yield of air quality violations issued to Detroit industries, such as the AK Steel emission violation of 11/26/19, the Marathon odor violation of 1/6/20, the Levy odor violation of 3/4/20; the Levy Slag fallout of 12/21/20, the AK Steel emissions violation 1/5/21, and the FCA odor violation of 9/20/21, and

WHEREAS, In 2017, BSEED committed to addressing air quality concerns through, 1) hiring an air quality specialist, 2) acquiring air quality monitoring technology, and 3) working closely with the Detroit Health Department and local universities to study air quality in frontline communities. Collecting this information regarding which 3 communities are most impacted by air pollution is extraordinarily important in determining how to prioritize resources, including allocating greenspace, performing health impact assessments, installing buffers, and installing filters in schools or public facilities, **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED, The Detroit City Council, out of concern for the health and welfare of citizens who are vulnerable to environmental concerns, is hereby strongly urging the Administration to implement a comprehensive air quality monitoring program and associated health studies in frontline communities, **NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be forwarded to David Bell, the City of Detroit's BSEED Director, and Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan.