



Detroit City Council

MEMORANDUM

TO: Legislative Policy Division

FROM: Fred Durhal III, Council Member, Co-Chair

DATE: October 6, 2023

RE: Exploration of Policy Alternatives for Retiree Pension Solutions

During our recent discussion at the Budget, Finance, and Audit Standing Committee meeting on October 4, 2023, several policy alternatives were proposed to address and alleviate the pension concerns of our retirees. In light of these suggestions, our office requests the Legislative Policy Division to undertake an analysis and produce a report on these potential policy interventions. The outlined policy alternatives include:

1. **DDOT Public Transit:** Making DDOT public transit free for all retirees.
2. **City Parking Benefits:** Allowing retirees to park in city parking lots either for free or at a significantly reduced rate.
3. **Water Rates:** Offering retirees a flat rate of \$18 per month for water.
4. **Property Tax Relief:** Implementing a significant exemption to property tax payments for retirees.
5. **Land Bank Housing Benefits:** Providing an opportunity for retirees to purchase land bank houses at a reduced rate.
6. **ARPA Stipend:** Granting a stipend or one-time payment of \$2,500 for retirees under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).
7. **Special Loan Program:** Introducing a \$25,000 loan program for retirees with 0% interest.

Please contact our office if you have any questions or concerns - Esmat Ishag-Osman, Ph.D., Esmat.ishagosman@detroitmi.gov

cc: Louise Jones, Senior Clerk
Deonte Agee, Senior Clerk