



City of Detroit

CITY COUNCIL

JAMES E. TATE JR.
CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO-TEMPORE

DISTRICT 1

MEMORANDUM

TO: Julie Schneider, Director, Housing and Revitalization Department

Antoine Bryant, Director, Planning and Development Department

THRU: Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee

FROM: Council President Pro Tempore James E. Tate Jr.

DATE: Tuesday, February 13, 2024

RE: Solar Garden Questions

Please respond to the following questions regarding the proposed solar garden initiative.

1. Bridging Neighborhoods currently administers components of the Gordie Howe Bridge Impact Area Community Benefits Plan, a component of the Michigan Central Station Community Benefits Agreement, and a component of the Fiat Chrysler Jefferson North Assembly Plant Community Benefits Agreement. Does one of the aforementioned plans/agreements prescribe to funding solar gardens? Additionally, can those agreements be amended to allow for funding of solar gardens outside of their impact area? Lastly, justify the use of Bridging Neighborhood funding to relocate residents for the solar garden initiative.
2. Please identify all City of Detroit resources that will be used to relocate residents.
3. What are the health implications for individuals living in close proximity to solar gardens?
4. Why have neighborhood sites been selected for installation of solar gardens rather than industrial sites?
5. The solar gardens are slated to be installed in neighborhoods, specifically on land where homes once stood. Is there a plan to build community infrastructure i.e., housing, parks, recreations centers, commercial businesses, etc., on the empty lots adjacent to the proposed solar garden sites? Does the Planning and Development Department (PDD) plan to issue an

request for proposal (RFP) for the development of the land surrounding the solar gardens? If so, please share those details.

6. What land uses should or would be prohibited around solar gardens?
7. How might the proposed solar garden initiative impact the City's zoning and Master Plan?
Are solar gardens and its impact contemplated in the proposed Master Plan amendments?

If there are any questions, please contact my Policy Analyst, Jai Singletary, at jai.singletary@detroitmi.gov.

Thank you,