

Attachment XI represents DBRA's list of Detroit brownfield plans from the year 2000 to present.

## Issues and Questions

### DEGC

1. Is the District Business Liaison program fully staffed? If not, how many vacancies are in the program and how soon will the vacant positions be filled?
2. In the DEGC's response to question number 5 to LPD's preliminary budget questions for FY 2024 (Attachment IV), the DEGC currently has 75 budget positions, which is 1 more than the 74 budgeted positions in FY 2023. As of March 7, 2024, 69 positions were filled with six vacancies. The DEGC expects to fill the vacant positions quickly. The number of positions is up slightly from the prior year due to growth in the Detroit Means Business program. However, the personnel makeup of the DEGC fluctuates up and down over the course of the year as new program opportunities arise. Please explain the difficulty in filling the vacant positions.
3. During the FY 2024 budget process, City Council added \$600,000 to the City's contribution to the DEGC for the following: 1) \$525,000 for the Green Grocer Program, and 2) \$75,000 for the African-Town Retail Study. Please provide a status of these programs and the current level of expenditures from the dollars City Council allocated for these programs.
4. Attachment II represents the DEGC's operating budget for FY 2024 and Attachment II.A is the operating budget for FY 2023. Questions/requests:
  - a. On the revenue side, please explain the \$300,000 increase in Other Contracts revenue in FY 2024.
  - b. On the expenditure side, Personnel increases by \$567,000 (7.1%) in FY 2024. Please explain.
5. In February 2024, the Citizens Research Council of Michigan (CRC) published Memorandum 1177 entitled "An Assessment of Detroit's Economic Condition and A Critique of Its Economic Development Efforts". The following are questions regarding the CRC report:
  - a. Does the DEGC agree with the conclusions raised by the CRC in the report?
  - b. Are there any major issues that were not addressed in the CRC report?
6. What can the DEGC share as to what is causing the delay in the phase one construction of the District Detroit project?
7. Is there a delay in the start of the construction of the UofM Innovation Center project? If so, what is causing the delay from DEGC's perspective?
8. Prospectively, will the DEGC update City Council when major projects that are to be constructed based on a defined schedule are delayed by more than six months and give reason(s) for the delay?

### EDC

4. Previously for a number of years, the City through the HRD contributed \$275,000 to the EDC, with \$255,000 allocated for EDC operations and \$20,000 for the Detroit Next Michigan Development Corporation (DNMDC) operations. Mayor Duggan proposes to increase the contribution to the EDC by \$25,000 in FY 2025. Please explain the need for the \$25,000 increase. How much of the \$300,000 City subsidy is slated for the EDC operations and the DNMDC operations in FY 2025, if approved by City Council?
5. Attachment VI shows that there is approximately \$1.3 million in unspent Casino Development Fund dollars that formerly were allocated amongst the National Retail, Non-Affiliated/Resident Retail and Resident Real Estate programs, but now are consolidated into one category called "Loan Funds". These dollars were reprogrammed to the "Loan Funds" category so that the use of these dollars is no longer restricted to specific geographical areas of the City, particularly downtown Detroit, but now to general areas of the City so that these dollars can be

expended throughout the City of Detroit. Please briefly describe the criteria for the expenditure of these funds and how they could potentially help Detroiters. Please provide a timeline of when these dollars will be spent.

DBRA

6. Has the number of brownfield redevelopment projects this fiscal year increased or decreased as compared to last year?

Attachments