

# Derrick Headd

City of Detroit Legislative Policy Division Retiree

**WHEREAS,**

Mr. Derrick Headd, known as the “Swiss Army Knife,” for his versatility and adaptability, is retiring after being employed by the City of Detroit for 38 years. He has been selected as the new Senior Vice President of Public Policy & Operations at the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation (DEGC). Derrick served as a Fiscal Analyst for the Fiscal Analysis Division and later the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) of the Detroit City Council since 1998; **AND**

**WHEREAS,**

Derrick was born in Chicago, Illinois, and at the age of seven, when his mother remarried, he moved to Detroit on the west side in the Richton and Dexter area. He attended MacCulloch Elementary School, Longfellow Middle School eventually graduating from Central High School. Mr. Headd is a proud member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated having served as Vice Polemarch as an undergraduate freshman at Oakland University. He studied Accounting at Oakland University, holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Wayne State University and is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma’s Economic Development Institute; **AND**

**WHEREAS,**

An expert in tax law, Mr. Headd has contributed to the majority of the City’s tax incentive policies for over 25 years. In particular, in 2010, Mr. Headd co-chaired a task force that included the City Assessor, the Law Department, City Council’s Research and Analysis Division (now a part of LPD) and the Planning and Development Department, in developing new policies and contracts for all of the City’s tax abatement programs that included enforceable language, inclusive of claw backs, to protect the CITY COUNCIL Coleman A. Young Municipal Center City’s interest against failed promises of employment and investment by developers. Prior to working as a Fiscal Analyst, Mr. Headd served as a Policy Analyst for the late Honorable Council Member Mel Ravitz, reviewing and

analyzing tax abatements as well as budgetary and policy issues. He briefly worked with the City's Recreation Department; **AND**

**\WHEREAS,**

Mr. Headd has also served as a member of LPD's Fiscal Team that leads the review and assists the City Council in its annual administration of the City of Detroit's Annual Budget, in addition to analyzing and reporting on City policies. As a Fiscal Analyst, over the past 26 years, Mr. Headd has led LPD's review of all the City's tax abatement and Brownfield projects subject to City Council approval. Most recently, Mr. Headd's analysis was crucial in Council approving the \$397 million Hotel at Water Square Convention Hotel Renaissance Zone project, the Transformational Brownfield related to the Future of Health \$3 billion Project and the \$1.5 billion District Detroit Transformational Brownfield Plan, which is projected to create 12,000 new construction jobs, 6,000 new permanent jobs and generate \$751 million in new revenue for Detroit over 35 years; **AND**

**WHEREAS,**

Mr. Headd, along with the late Honorable Council Member JoAnn Watson, were founders of the original Bank on Detroit initiative in 2010. After chairing the task force inclusive of the FDIC, the Detroit Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, the United Way, the Accounting Aid Society, Detroit's First Independence Bank and Southwest Housing Solutions, while maintaining his responsibilities as a Fiscal Analyst to Council, Mr. Headd was selected as the first Manager of Bank on Detroit. Under his leadership, through a coordinated effort with the FDIC, Focus Hope, Southwest Housing Solutions and the banks in the Detroit, inclusive of Chase Bank, Comerica Bank, and Detroit's First Independence Bank, the Bank on Detroit initiative was successful in recruiting and providing financial literacy training for over 1,800 unbanked and underbanked Detroiters, while steering them away from the dangers of payday advance facilities and their predatory practices; **AND**

**WHEREAS,**

An avid sportsman, Mr. Headd's contributions in the community includes coaching baseball for Eagle Sports at Balduck Park in Detroit. In 2015, he coached his daughter's mixed-12 baseball team to a championship. A two-time championship coach, he recently coached his son's Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) Basketball Team through a championship season. He shared his talents with the Detroit

City Council Basketball League shortly after joining Council as a staffer. Derrick has raised money for Multiple Sclerosis (MS) as a finisher in both the Detroit Free Press Marathon, and the two day 150-mile bike ride for the MS 150. Mr. Headd was recognized as Volunteer of the Year by the Children’s Center of Wayne County and was selected as one of four Americans as an American Council on Germany, John J. McCloy Fellow, to tour Germany for three weeks to study best practices in government; **AND**

**WHEREAS,**

Derrick is a strong family man and committed to his family. Those who know him well describe him as kind, generous, and selfless – whether coaching his kids or volunteering at work. But there doesn’t seem to be many people who don’t know Derrick. The “Mayor of CAYMC”, “Prince of LPD”, is known to “hold court in the hallways”. He remembers more than faces, he remembers names, a person’s children’s name, a story you once told him, he is genuine. His love for his family, people, and Ford Mustang cars – now on his third pony - is iconic. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

**RESOLVED,**

That on this day, **Tuesday, July 2, 2024**, Council President Pro-Tempore James E. Tate Jr., Council President Mary Sheffield, and the entire Detroit City Council hereby present this Testimonial Resolution to **Mr. Derrick Headd** as the highest expression of gratitude and esteem on behalf of the residents of the City of Detroit for his more than thirty years of civic service, demonstration of the utmost integrity, and immeasurable guidance. May you be blessed in your retirement and achieve success in your new role with the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation.