



MEMORANDUM

TO: Art Thompson, Chief Information Officer
FROM: Hon. Scott Benson, City Council District 3

CC: Hon. Latisha Johnson, Chair, Internal Operations Standing Committee
Hon. Janice Winfrey, City Clerk
Malik Washington, Mayor's Liaison

VIA: Hon. Council President Mary Sheffield

DATE: 5 August 2024

RE: DATA SCIENCE UTILIZATION IN MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS

I am writing to inquire about how the City of Detroit employs data science within our municipal operations. It is crucial to understand the scope and efficacy of data-driven strategies in optimizing resource allocation and addressing urban challenges. Specifically, I am requesting information on the following points:

1. Current Utilization of Data Science:

- a. Is the City of Detroit actively using data science to deploy municipal resources and address citywide problems? If so, please provide an overview of how data science is being integrated into our operations.

2. Team Composition and Compensation:

- a. How many people are currently on the data science team?
- b. What are the individual staff titles?
- c. What is the total budget, including compensation, for the data science team?

3. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and Metrics:

- a. What are the key performance indicators (KPIs) and metrics used to measure the success or failure of the data science team's initiatives and projects?
- b. How is performance evaluated and what benchmarks are set to ensure accountability and continuous improvement?

4. Data Management

- a. How and where is the data collected for the data science team managed and stored?
- b. How is the data protected?

5. Departmental Support and Requests:

- a. What is the process for other departments within the city to request support or collaboration from the data science team?
- b. Are there specific protocols or criteria that departments must follow to leverage the expertise of the data science team?

Your prompt attention to this request is greatly appreciated. Please provide the requested information by mid-August 2024.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact my office at 313-224-1198.

SRB