

JAMES E. WHITE

- WHEREAS** James E. White, a lifelong Detroiter and dedicated public servant, has exemplified exceptional leadership, vision, and commitment throughout his 28-year tenure with the Detroit Police Department, serving in various critical leadership roles including Chief of Police for the City of Detroit, as well as serving as the head of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights; **and**
- WHEREAS** Chief White spearheaded transformative initiatives, including successfully leading the police department out of two decades of federal consent agreements, fostering community trust, and ensuring constitutional rights protections for Detroit’s residents; **and**
- WHEREAS** Chief White demonstrated his commitment to bridging divides through innovative programs such as establishing a civilian advisory committee to strengthen relationships between law enforcement and the community, and creating opportunities for returning citizens in non-sworn roles within the department; **and**
- WHEREAS** As a state-licensed mental health counselor, Chief White prioritized the mental health and well-being of residents and DPD officers, particularly during critical incidents, and has consistently championed the need to address the mental health crisis within the community and beyond; **and**
- WHEREAS** Chief White’s dedication to public service and mental health advocacy has led to his appointment as the new CEO of the Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network (DWIHN), where he will oversee nearly \$1 billion in mental health services for more than 120,000 residents in Detroit and Wayne County. His leadership at DWIHN will provide vital resources to the most vulnerable populations, ensuring accountability, performance, and impactful outcomes; **and**
- WHEREAS** During his DWIHN appointment, Chief White emphasized the urgent need for mental health reform, citing his commitment to addressing the challenges faced by individuals within and outside of law enforcement, saying, “*Mental health has no boundaries or borders... it’s a lot to be done in the world of mental health, and I’m excited to be part of it.*” **and**
- WHEREAS** We commend and celebrate the outstanding accomplishments of Chief James E. White, whose leadership has profoundly impacted the Detroit Police Department and the broader Detroit community. His decision to lead DWIHN underscores his unwavering dedication to service, equity, and improving the quality of life for all. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**
- RESOLVED** That on this day, November 12, 2024, *Council President Mary Sheffield* and the entire Detroit City Council extend our heartfelt gratitude for Chief White’s remarkable contributions to public safety, community, and wellness, and wish him continued success as he embarks on his next chapter of transformative leadership in mental health services.