



MAYOR'S OFFICE

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MEMORANDUM

To: Council Member Latisha Johnson, District 4 Councilmember

From: Melia Howard, Deputy Mayor, Mayor's Office

Date: March 20, 2025

Re: Response to 2025-2026 Mayor's Office Budget Question

Please find below responses to your questions sent on March 10, 2025, regarding the Fiscal Year 2026 Proposed Budget for the Mayor's Office.

1. How is the Mayor's Office ensuring that departmental vacancies are filled so that city services can be improved?

The Mayor's Office works closely with Human Resources to fill department vacancies as fast as possible, to ensure city services are continuously improved upon. The HR department uses research-based recruiting strategies to fill departmental vacancies. Additionally, the Mayor's Office relies upon our many talent attraction and recruitment programs to fill vacancies, with a special focus on attracting local Detroit-based talent. Some of those programs include the Department of Neighborhood's shadow program, Grow Detroit's Young Talent (GDYT), and the Mayoral Fellowship program in the summer. The Mayor's Office also has partnerships with local universities to attract and retain talent to fill vacant positions.

2. Given that we no longer have ARPA dollars at our disposal to fund many programs that were transformative for our neighborhoods. What programs will be cut due to the lack of ARPA funding?

While there are many programs that relied on ARPA dollars to continue the transformative work happening in neighborhoods across the city, not every program will be able to be funded moving forward. Department leadership will evaluate current ARPA programming and make recommendations to the incoming administration on which programs to continue with general fund dollars. However, it will be up to the next administration to make the final determination of whether or not to continue to fund these ARPA programs moving forward.

3. With the upcoming change in administration, how are city departments preserving a minimum of 50% of their budgets? How are departments planning for any budgetary adjustments or allocations that may come with a new administration?

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Through a partnership and commitment to balancing budgets between the Administration and City Council, we have had 12 years of balanced budgets. The current administration is committed to ensuring the city is left in a positive position at the end of this administration.

4. Please provide an update on the utilization of the Detroit 365 Alert System.

a. How many residents are subscribed to the system?

There are currently 4,601 residents subscribed to the Detroit 365 Alert System.

b. How has the Mayor's office encouraged residents to subscribe to the system?

There is a current billboard buy regarding Detroit Alerts and a Public Service Announcement (PSA) has also been produced in the past. An upcoming PSA is currently being developed for release, including news releases that have been disseminated to the media list. Residents are also encouraged to sign up for the Detroit 365 Alert System through DPD's Neighborhood Police Officers, Detroit Recreation Centers, the Department of Neighborhoods, and the Mayor's online newsletter "Mayor's Update to Residents."

Detroit Homeland Security and Emergency Management has also encouraged representatives and the public to register through the following groups and activities: Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Local Emergency Planning Committee, Downtown Detroit Partnership, Homeland Security Advisory Council, and during community outreach activities.