



CITY OF DETROIT
FIRE DEPARTMENT
DETROIT PUBLIC SAFETY HEADQUARTERS

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TO: Mary Waters, Councilmember, At-Large

FROM: Charles Simms, Executive Fire Commissioner
Detroit Fire Department

DATE: March 27, 2025

RE: **Responses to 2025-2026 Budget Analysis**

Please find below responses to your questions sent on 3/17/2025, regarding the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Proposed Budget for the Detroit Fire Department.

1. Please discuss how the department is planning for potential disruptions in federal support over the next several years.
 - a. The department will transition certain expenditures into replacement schedules for eligible items and equipment. This approach will reduce annual budget amounts by spreading costs over time rather than requiring lump sum payments.
 - b. The department is focused on increasing revenue through the following:
 - i. Training outside agencies at DFD Regional Training Center.
 - ii. Increase Detroit EMS coverage for special events.
 - c. The department is also focused on decreasing costs through the following:
 - i. Regular preventive maintenance of vehicles to prevent high-cost repairs
 - ii. Accident prevention software on all emergency vehicles to decrease costly repairs.
2. Please discuss how the department is working on recruiting more Detroiters for filling vacant roles, and how the department is working to inform current DFD members of the opportunities open to them to become residents of Detroit.
 - a. The department in conjunction with Human Resources, recruits in high schools, churches, community events, social media and our webpage. DFD/Human Resources ensure all Detroiters who are placed on the eligibility list are offered a position.
 - b. DFD's social media team frequently highlights Detroit through posts, videos, and pictures.

Approved by:

CHARLES SIMMS
Executive Fire Commissioner