


To: Council President Pro Tempore James E. Tate Jr.
From: Julianne Pastula, Director of Department of Appeals and Hearings
Date: March 24, 2025
Re: Responses to 2025-2026 DAH Budget Analysis

Please find below responses to your questions sent on March 19, 2025, regarding the Fiscal Year 2026 Proposed Budget for the Department of Appeals and Hearings (DAH).

1. Slide #4 on the PowerPoint presentation shown at the budget hearing on March 19 showed figures for tickets that were adjusted. What is the average amount for an adjusted ticket?

Slide #4 displays the total number of tickets issued by ticket-issuing agencies and the total number of tickets adjudicated at a DAH hearing. The difference between these figures represents tickets that were issued but not adjudicated. This can occur for two reasons: either the Respondent paid the ticket before the hearing (Responsible by Admission), or the ticket-issuing agency dismissed it in advance due to compliance by the property owner or an issue with the ticket itself (e.g., incorrect violation code).

There was a 30% increase in ticketing and a 10% increase in hearings held from FY23 to FY24. A copy of Slide #4 is included below for your reference:



"BLIGHT COURT" BY THE NUMBERS: TICKETS		
	2023	2024
Blight Tickets Issued	93,391	121,391
Tickets Adjudicated by DAH	81,899	90,106

2. In calendar year 2024, how many motor vehicle filling station (as it is titled in Chapter 50 of the Detroit City Code) have had their licenses revoked, denied, or suspended?

During calendar year 2024, there were two (2) business license hearings at DAH regarding gas stations:

Claimant Name	Address	Hearing Date	Outcome
Jay Durgama, Inc.	23550 Grand River	11/15/24	Consent agreement; Dismissed at request of both Parties.
SMM Investments, Inc.	12800 McNichols	12/20/24	Consent agreement; Dismissed at request of both Parties.

3. Please discuss the status of the establishment of a community blight court.

In my first year as Director of DAH, we conducted a thorough review of departmental operations, resulting in several process improvements and updates. Among the completed projects were the Motion to Set Aside a Default Judgment and Blight Clearance Application processes, both of which have been streamlined for greater efficiency, along with the addition of online filing options for the public.

While we will continue our efforts to refine processes and improve efficiency, major projects have been successfully completed. This enables us to focus on other strategic initiatives, including the procurement of new docket management software and the reintroduction of Community Blight Court. DAH is fully dedicated to the Community Blight Court project and has already acquired the necessary equipment to facilitate off-site hearings. Additionally, we have reviewed past workflows to identify areas for updates and improvements as we move forward and fulfill my verbal commitment made at the Council table.

Signature: JWP

Date: March 24, 2025