



City of Detroit  
Detroit City Council  
Council Member Angela Whitfield Calloway  
District 2

## MEMORANDUM

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TO: Malik Washington, Administration liaison  
FROM: Council Member Angela Whitfield-Calloway *awc*  
DATE: March 26, 2025  
RE: Budget questions for the Elections Commission.

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In anticipation of the March 2025 budget hearings, please forward the following budget questions concerning the Election Commission.

1. Please describe staff training concerning the Elliott – Larson Civil Rights Act and the appropriate work force environment. Please note that proper training will prevent complaints, litigation costs and settlements.

**Response:** There is currently no training dedicated solely concerning the Elliot-Larson Civil Rights Act. However, the department is committed to ensuring we maintain an equitable, inclusive, professional, and non-discriminatory work environment for all staff, as well as internal and external customers.

2. Some Detroit residents complain to City Council during public comment that they have evidence of election fraud. How should City Council refer the residents to the Election Commission or the Wayne County Prosecutors Office?

**Response:** Residents with allegations of election fraud purporting to have evidence should be referred to the Michigan Attorney General's Office.

3. Does the Election Commission have a social media program or campaign to address the election conspiracy theories that arise after an election? Please explain. What would be the cost of such a social media campaign?

**Response:** The department has a social media program, but it largely addresses matters pertaining to voter outreach and recruitment of poll workers, get out the vote efforts, and various methods of voting. The department has largely fought voter disinformation campaigns by standing by the results of our work through the certification of elections at the County and State



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level. Those who amplify misinformation campaigns through conspiracy theories often cannot be satisfied or placated regardless of there being no widespread evidence of voter fraud. We have often found it fruitless to constantly address every frivolous accusation. As such, we have not determined the cost of this type of campaign.

4. ARPA funding will end in December 2026. What ARPA funding programs will need general fund support to continue beyond ARPA?

**Response:** The Department does not have any programs funded by ARPA. Hence, the general fund will not be needed.

Please contact our office if you have any questions or concerns – Peter Rhoades,  
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