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Coleman A. Young II
Councilman At Large #1

MEMO

TO: Janice Winfrey, Detroit City Clerk
City of Detroit

Malik Washington, Mayor's Office Liaison

FROM: COLEMAN A. YOUNG II, COUNCIL MEMBER AT LARGE #1

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Coleman A. Young II".

DATE: March 27, 2025

RE: FY 2026 Budget Questions

Dear Clerk Winfrey

Please see the attached FY 2026 Budget questions for the Department of Elections.

Thank you.

Department of Elections - FY 2026 Budget Questions

1. FY 2026 is an election year. What specific increases in staffing, temporary poll workers, or overtime are reflected in the budget to handle higher turnout and the multiple elections planned?

Response: There are no increases in temporary staffing, poll workers, or overtime in the FY26 budget.

2. Are there any capital requests for new voting machines, tabulators, or absentee ballot processing equipment in FY 2026? If so, how are those investments being funded (General Fund, grants, or HAVA funds)?

Response: The department has no capital request for FY2026.

3. What strategies and programs are funded in FY 2026 to improve voter outreach, especially in low-turnout neighborhoods? Are there any planned expansions to satellite offices or improvements in absentee ballot tracking and communication?

Response: Staff will be going to Detroit high schools to register and educate current and prospective voters about the voting process. We will also be conducting outreach at community block club events, nursing homes, pop-up shops at the parks, and a plethora of other venues.

There is no planned expansion of satellites in FY 2026 from FY2025. Absentee ballot tracking has been a function of the State of Michigan since the 2024 Presidential Election Cycle. We do provide inserts within our absentee mailings giving information to Detroiters where to track their absentee ballots at the Secretary of State's website.

