



POLICE DEPARTMENT

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To: David Whitaker, Director, Legislative Policy Division

From: Todd Bettison, Chief of Police, Detroit Police Department

Date: April 09, 2025

Re: Responses to 2025-2026 DPD Budget Analysis

Please find below responses to your questions sent on 3/21/2025 regarding the Fiscal Year 2026 Proposed Budget for the Detroit Police Department.

- 1. Please briefly explain the Police Department's new expense initiatives, new capital funding requests, operational reform and savings proposals, and new revenue initiatives/proposals to be implemented in FY 2026. Please provide which appropriation/cost center the new initiative/request/proposal is impacting in FY 2026.**

The new expense initiatives in the FY26 Budget are the following:

- Funding for helicopter repairs and maintenance in approp 370525, CC 633155
- Salary increase for Intelligence Specialists in approp 25372, CC 372005
- Increased Detroit Detention Center contract cost in approp 25373, CC 370687
- Increased cost of uniforms in approp 29371, CC 370675

- 2. B37-1: According to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO), the department has 95 vacancies through February 5, 2025). Please indicate your number of vacancies as of March 17, 2025.**

As of March 17, 2024, DPD had 109 vacancies. Of these, 41 were vacant sworn positions and 68 were vacant civilian professional staff positions.

a. Please briefly describe the attrition issues and the difficulty of filling the vacancies.

There is no overall difficulty of filling positions. Separations occur at a natural rate, and DPD works diligently to fill vacated positions. DPD is fully staffed with officers at the police officer rank, and appointments and promotions will be made soon. The majority of civilian vacancies are Crime Analysts and Emergency Services Deployment Officers (ESDOs), which DPD is expecting to fill.



April 09, 2025

Page 2

b. Please briefly explain the Department's strategy to fill vacant positions.

The remaining vacancies will be filled by continuing to recruit.

3. B37-7: The number of Police Department positions decreased by 7 from 3,529 positions in FY 2025 to 3,522 in FY 2026. Are there any important position changes that should be highlighted?

There was a decrease of 2 positions in the General Fund because of position amendments.

- Reallocated (2) TASS Traffic Control Officers to 1 Full-Time Traffic Control Officer
- Reallocated (2) TASS Traffic Control Officers to 1 Construction Project Coordinator

There was a decrease of 5 positions in the Grant Fund due to the following changes:

- Decrease in 4 positions funded by the ATPA Preventing Auto Theft Grant
- Decrease in 3 positions funded by the VOCA grant (Victims Assistance Grant)
- Increase in 2 positions in the Crime Victim Sustainability Fund grant

4. B37-8: The overall Mayor's FY 2026 Police Department appropriations total \$455.4 million, an increase of \$13.56 million from the \$441.9 million in the FY 2025 adopted budget. Please explain the change.

The majority of the increase is due to scheduled salary and wage increases. Across all funds, salaries and wages increased by \$11.93 million from FY24 to FY25. A portion of this increase is due to a wage increase for Intelligence Specialists. The rest of the \$13.56 million increase is due to increasing need in FY26 for the following items: cost increase for the Detroit Detention Center; increase in the cost of the contract for repair and maintenance of the helicopter; and increased need and cost for uniforms for sworn personnel. There is also an increase in budgeted expenses in the Special Revenue Fund due to increased revenues.

5. B37-8: Please explain why Employee Benefits decrease by \$380,257 in FY 2026 while Salaries & Wages increase by \$11.93 million in FY 2026.

The employee benefits decrease is largely due to revised hospitalization costs based on assumptions of the medical benefits plans and coverage levels employees will choose. The benefits rate is revised year-over-year with changes in employees' benefits selections. Salaries & wages increased due to budgeted general wage increases and planned step & merit.



April 09, 2025

Page 3

- 6. The Mayor's recommended General Fund Police Department FY 2026 appropriations for police (uniform) officers' salaries total \$228.96 million which is \$7.32 million more than the FY 2025 adopted budget of \$221.6 million. Please explain the change.**

Budgeted salaries for uniform officers increased from FY25 to FY26 because of scheduled general wage increases.

- 7. Salaries for civilians' total \$36.91 million for FY 2026 or \$1 million more than the \$35.98 million for FY 2025. Why did the civilian salaries increase in FY 2026?**

Budgeted salaries for civilians increased from FY25 to FY26 because of scheduled general wage increases.

- 8. The Mayor's recommended \$49.17 million Salaries-Overtime-Police Uniform which is a \$14.11 million or 40.25% increase from FY2025 \$35.06 million. Please explain why the General Fund uniform police officers' overtime increase in the Mayor's FY 2026 recommendation.**

Total General Fund budgeted overtime is flat from FY25 to FY26. \$14.11 million was reclassified from one-time funding in FY25 to recurring funding in FY26. The overtime is a recurring need to maintain current public safety service levels.

- 9. B37-9: Please explain the \$677,659 reduction in Fines, Forfeits, & Penalties revenue in FY 2026.**

In FY25 and before, revenue was budgeted for tows from Municipal Parking. DPD no longer receives this revenue from Municipal Parking, so the revenue forecast was reduced from about \$600K to \$0.

- 10. B37-9: Please explain the \$3.9 million drop in Taxes, Assessments, & Interest revenue in FY 2026.**

This is due to a decrease in the revenue projection for the Utility Users' Tax, which is partially offset by an increase in the revenue projection for the Municipal Income Tax.

- 11. B37-17: Please describe the type of revenue generated in Cost Center# 370675-Resource Management Division and please explain why it decreases by \$6.2 million in FY 2026.**



April 09, 2025

Page 4

The revenue from the Utility Users' Tax is classified under cost center 370675 – Resource Management. The revenue projection decreases in this cost center due to a decrease in the revenue projection for the Utility Users' Tax.

12. B37-17: Please explain why Cost Center# 370676-Police Fleet Management revenue decreases by \$2.46 million in FY 2026.

The revenue in cost center 370676 – Police Fleet Management is the revenue that DPD receives from abandoned vehicle auctions. DPD is now required to transfer that revenue to the State so it can be claimed by its rightful owner, and DPD will receive back the revenue if it remains unclaimed. The revenue projection decreased by 80% in FY26 because of this requirement.

13. B37-19: Please explain why Cost Center# 370680-Towing Operations increase by \$1.58 million in FY 2026.

The revenue projections in cost center 370680 – Towing Operations increased in FY26 due to an increase in actual tow revenue because of the recent addition of more tow trucks.

14. Please describe any significant new grants and the benefits that they will provide for Mayor's FY 2026 recommendation.

One new grant in the FY26 Budget is the Crime Victim Sustainability Fund Grant. The objective of the grant is to undertake, perform, and provide support for crime victim services across Michigan.

15. How many uniform police positions are funded by grants in the fiscal year 2025 budget? How many uniform police positions are funded by grants in the fiscal year 2026 Mayor's proposed budget?

In the FY25 Budget, 25 uniform police positions are funded by grants. In the FY26 Proposed Budget, 20 uniform police positions are funded by grants.

16. What are the Police Department's major capital needs for FY 2026?

The following are the Police Department's major capital needs for FY26:

- Mountain bikes – there is a need to purchase pedal mountain bikes for community patrols and downtown events
- Range housing upgrade – the range housing at Rouge Range needs repair and replacement. This allows member to continue to qualify in inclement weather and provides awnings for sand pits, facing machinery for qualification targets and wood walls as necessary equipment for the qualifications required by MCOLES



CITY OF DETROIT
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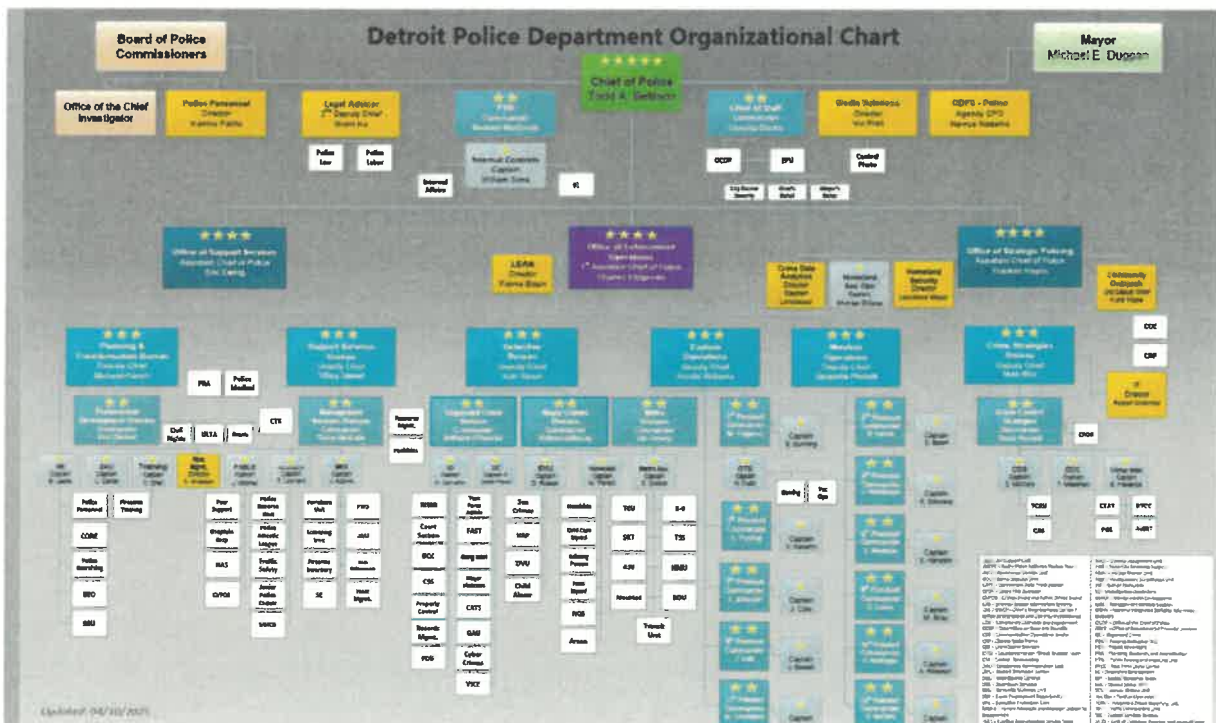
April 09, 2025
Page 5

- Grinnell demolition – expand available tow space on our lots with the destruction of condemned and unusable structures
- Grand River metal fencing – establish better security fencing at tow lot to reduce B/E and thefts
- Security cameras – improve security and real time monitoring of DPD facilities
- HQ remodel – will allow for HQ remodel and repairs to take place efficiently
- Bomb squad ATV – there is a need to purchase an ATV for the bomb squad that will increase the efficiency and make such operations safer for the involved personnel and equipment protection
- Range abatement – range abatement is a required service to ensure the Department ranges are cleaned and in proper working order, so members do not sustain injuries from blowback or other safety concerns. Range qualification is a requirement to maintain MCOLES certification.

17. Please list the equipment and capital to be acquired with the FY 2026 budget.

The FY26 Budget provides funding for the repair and maintenance of the department's helicopters. Other capital items will be funded based on availability of the City's capital dollars.

18. Please provide the Police Department's reorganization chart for FY 2026, if available.





CITY OF DETROIT
POLICE DEPARTMENT

April 09, 2025

Page 6

19. In FY2024 Police received 1,035,545 calls and answered 968,423 calls. How many calls have been received and answered through February 28, 2025?

Between 1/1/2025 and 2/28/2025 DPD received 54,793 calls and answered 43,712 calls.

Should you have any additional questions or concerns please feel free to contact Agency CFO Nevrus Nazarko, of the Office of Departmental Financial Services, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Sincerely,

TODD A. BETTISON
Chief of Police

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