



MEMORANDUM

TO: David Whitaker, Director, Legislative Policy Division (LPD)
FROM: Hon. Scott Benson, City Council District 3

CC: Hon. Fred Durhal III, Chair, Budget Finance & Audit Standing Committee
Hon. Janice Winfrey, City Clerk
Malik Washington, Mayor's Liaison
Antonio Brown, DPL, CFO

VIA: Hon. Council President Mary Sheffield
DATE: 3 June 2025

RE: REQUEST FOR DETROIT PUBLIC LIBRARY (DPL)
FOUNDATION INFORMATION

In the interest of financial transparency for our public library system, I am requesting the Legislative Policy Division obtain information regarding the Detroit Public Library Foundation. Specifically, please provide a detailed report addressing the following:

1. Leadership and Governance:

- Name and contact information of the current Foundation Director.
- Total number of board members and their names.
- Process and criteria for board member selection or election.
- Frequency of Board meetings and whether these meetings are open to the public.

2. Financial Details and Budgetary Information:

- Foundation's current fiscal year budget amount.
- The total annual fundraising contributions raised over the past two fiscal years.
- Copies of the last two approved annual Foundation budgets.

3. Use of Foundation Funds:

- Detailed explanation of how Foundation funds specifically support the Detroit Public Library's operations, programs, and/or initiatives.

Please highlight any additional aspects of the Foundation's operations or financial management that would benefit from increased public transparency, supporting effective oversight and aligning with the DPL's strategic objectives.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact my office at, 313-224-1198.

SRB