MEMORANDUM

TO: Maurice Cox, Director, Planning & Development Department
FROM: President Pro Tempore Mary Sheffield, Chair, Neighborhoods and Community Services Committee
THRU: Brenda Jones, City Council President
DATE: March 14, 2019
RE: PDD Budget Hearing

- Please list all of the active planning studies taking place throughout the city. Are there any future planning studies that have been funded but have not started yet? If so, what are they? Is there a process for neighborhoods to request a future planning study? How much funding does the City have available for future studies?

- Approximately how many parcels (DLBA, DBA, or City) are being held for planning studies, development agreements, or other reasons? Where are those parcels located? How much in tax revenue and upkeep costs are we losing by holding these properties? Is there a running list of such properties so people looking to purchase property could be aware?

- Has PDD specifically allocated funds for the CBO process? If not, how come? What are some ways in which the CBO ordinance and process can be improved?

- What is the status of the East Jefferson planning study? Is the Department still meeting with residents and stakeholders? What is the total cost of the planning study and eventually repaving of Jefferson?

- A large number of PDD staff positions are funded through CDBG. Does the Department have a contingency in case the proposed federal cuts to CDBG take
place? Would the department be able to support the current staffing level without federal fund?

- On page B43-7, under Fund #4533, what is the $5,345,000 for Equipment Acquisition for FY2019? What project/equipment is this funding? Is this City funds?

- What is the yearly revenue from commercial land sales for the past 5 years? Do commercial land sales fund any other specific programs aside from the Housing Preservation Fund? What other forms of revenue (non-grant) does PDD generate?

- What is the African American Civil Rights Preservation Grant? What types of programs does this fund? Is there a match requirement from the City?

- The FY2019 adopted budget allowed for 41 total FTE positions but it appears as of 2019 only 32 positions are filled? Why is the department so under capacity? Will this affect the timeline on any current projects or planning studies? Does the department need more staff? If so, in which positions?

- What is the current status of the Brewster Wheeler Recreation Center? What funds have been dedicated to the project and when is construction expected to commence?

- How is PDD soliciting feedback from the community over the installation of bike lanes? When is the trial run over and the lanes considered permanent? What is the estimated cost of installing the bike lanes throughout the City?