

City of Detroit


CITY COUNCIL

DENZEL ANTON MCCAMPBELL COUNCIL MEMBER, DISTRICT 7

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ali Abazeed, Director
Detroit Health Department

THRU: Council President James Tate

FROM: Council Member Denzel Anton McCampbell 

DATE: March 26, 2026

RE: FY27 Budget Hearing Follow Up – Detroit Health Department

Thank you again for your time and for the presentation during the recent hearing. We appreciate the Health Department's willingness to walk through current operations and respond to council questions. As a follow-up, I have a few additional questions so I can better understand some of the issues discussed on the record and areas that may come up in future policy discussions.

- 1) You list of major focus areas like infant mortality reduction and chronic disease, what measurable improvements did we see last year? What are your FY27 targets for infant mortality, chronic disease rates, and lead exposure cases?
- 2) How much of your budget is going toward direct clinical services (immunizations, STI treatment, etc.) versus upstream prevention?
 - a. What percentage of funding is dedicated to addressing social determinants like housing, food access, and transportation?
- 3) Food access is a critical social determinant of health, and too many neighborhoods in Detroit are still without a full-service grocery store. What conversations is the Health Department having with DEGC and PDD to incentivize grocery store development in underserved areas, and is there anything in this budget that reflects that coordination?
- 4) Lead exposure remains a major issue—how many homes were remediated last year and how many are targeted this year?
 - a. What is the backlog of homes needing intervention, and how long does it take from identification to remediation?
 - b. What does partnership with DWSD, HRD, and BSEED look like?
- 5) Many services are free or low-cost, what are the biggest barriers residents still face in accessing them?
- 6) How is the Health Department coordinating with police on mental health co-response programs?

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- a. What portion of your budget supports behavioral health versus traditional public health services?
 - b. If we're investing in co-response, what evidence do we have that it's reducing arrests or emergency room visits?
 - c. Have we investigated other models that do not involve the police, like CROS in Washtenaw County and CAHOOTS in Eugene, Oregon?
- 7) What innovative solutions are you looking into to help meet the health insurance coverage cliff for our families who do not have employer-provided insurance, make too much for Medicaid/Healthy Michigan Plan, and not enough for marketplace plans, especially as the federal government is no longer offering ACA subsidies?
 - 8) How is the department expanding access to health services directly in schools through school partnerships?
 - a. Are there plans to deploy mobile health units to our schools?
 - 9) What investments are being made in children's mental and behavioral health, especially post-pandemic?
 - 10) As vaccine utilization rates have dropped in Michigan, what you doing to build trust, educate, and encourage all Detroiters to utilize vaccines for themselves and their families?

Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you have any questions. Thank you.

Cc: Honorable Detroit City Council
Louise Jones, City Clerk's Office
Malik Washington, Director of City Government Affairs