



CITY OF DETROIT

MARY WATERS

COUNCIL MEMBER AT-LARGE

MEMORANDUM

To: Denise Starr, Director

Through: Mary Sheffield, City Council President

From: Council Member At-Large Mary Waters submitting memorandum relative to

Date: 3/29/2023

RE: Questions on Contract 3064871 – LinkedIn Learning

SUMMARY:

- Please explain why this is considered sole-source, when not only LinkedIn offers online trainings, but other platforms do such as Coursera
- Please explain why this contract is with a government technology consulting firm rather than LinkedIn itself, as the LinkedIn Learning platform is available directly from LinkedIn
- Please explain if the previous legal action taken by the US Department of Justice against the vendor, Carahsoft, was taken into consideration for the award of this contract. The case was settled in 2015 for \$75 million, settling claims that the company and its partner VMWare overcharged government users (sourced from articles such as <https://www.govexec.com/technology/2015/07/white-house-cios-former-software-firm-violated-false-claims-act/117004/>)

DEPARTMENTAL CONTACT:

Name: Thomas Choske, Thomas.Choske@detroitmi.gov

Position: Policy and Communications Analyst