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TO:

The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM:

David D. Whitaket

Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE:

June 25, 2019

RE:

Proposed Chapters 47-49 of Recodified Detroit City Code

For your consideration, the Legislative Policy Division has provided below a general overview of the type of amendments that have been made in the proposed chapters 47-49 of the Detroit City Code recodification project. The Home Rule City Act, 117.5b, authorizes the City to amend, rearrange and repeal provisions in the Code through a recodification process. The amendments are being made to update language to reflect changes in State law and to remove unnecessary and duplicative provisions. There are only a few instances where changes are being made because of a City agency's request for a change of policy, in those instances the request is noted. Although allowed, it has been determine that further changes of policy would be best handled outside of this process.

Two of the schematic elements that will be seen throughout the recodification are the identification of penalties and the specific licensing information within each chapter. In many cases throughout the current Code, penalties have not been specified within each chapter, so the general penalty provisions located in Chapter 1 are applied when violations occur. The recodified code identifies the penalties (in most cases misdemeanors) with each chapter for the readers' convenience. Additionally, all of the licensing provisions are now within the chapters were the licenses are established.

CHAPTER 47 TRANSPORTATION FOR HIRE

- This chapter regulates the various types of commercial transportation available in the City. This includes buses, the People Mover, electric and horse-drawn carriages, motorcycle rentals, and pedal cabs and rickshaws.
- The new licensing scheme has been incorporated for the various licenses required under this chapter.
- The cross references to other code provisions and department names have been updated.

CHAPTER 48 UTILITIES

- This chapter regulates charges assessed by the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department.
- The cross references to other code provisions and department names have been updated.

CHAPTER 49 WATERWAYS AND MARINE SAFETY

- This chapter regulates the use of waterways in the City.
- The State has modified the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, since this chapter has originally authored under the current code. Some of the changes contained in the amendments have limited the City's authority to regulate certain activities. This goal of this is to allow for a uniform regulation of vessels as they travel through the State. All of the now preempted sections of our ordinance has been removed from this chapter.