

David Whitaker, Esq.
Director, Legislative Policy Division
Irvin Corley, Jr.
Executive Policy Manager
Marcell R. Todd, Jr.
Director, City Planning Commission
Janese Chapman
Director,
Historic Designation Advisory Board

John Alexander
LaKisha Barclift, Esq.
Megha Bamola
Nur Barre
M. Rory Bolger, Ph.D., FAICP
Elizabeth Cabot, Esq.
Tasha Cowan
George Etheridge

City of Detroit

CITY COUNCIL

LEGISLATIVE POLICY DIVISION
208 Coleman A. Young Municipal Center
Detroit, Michigan 48226
Phone: (313) 224-4946 Fax: (313) 224-4336

Christopher Gulock, AICP
Derrick Headd
Marcel Hurt, Esq.
Kimani Jeffrey
Anne Marie Langan
Jamie Murphy
Kim Newby
Analine Powers, Ph.D.
Jennifer Reinhardt
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Sabrina Shockley
Thomas Stephens, Esq.
David Teeter
Theresa Thomas
Kathryn L. Underwood, MUP
Ashley A. Wilson

TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director 
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: July 13, 2021

RE: **RESOLUTION TO PLACE REPARATIONS INITIATIVE ON BALLOT**

Council President Pro Tem Sheffield directed the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) to place a reparations ballot question before the voters during the November general election. The draft resolution is attached.

If Council has any questions or concerns regarding this matter, LPD will be happy to provide further research and analysis upon request.

**RESOLUTION TO PLACE REPARATIONS INITIATIVE
ON THE NOVEMBER 2021 BALLOT**

By Council President Pro Tem Mary Sheffield

WHEREAS Detroit City Council recently passed and adopted a unanimous Resolution Supporting Community Reparations for Black Detroit; AND

WHEREAS An initial step in implementing Council's resolution would be public affirmation of support for reparations at a regular City election; AND

WHEREAS Section 3-105 of the City Charter provides that Council may submit, by resolution adopted not less than 70 days before any election, any proposal to voters of the City; AND

WHEREAS Implementation of reparations for black Detroit will be materially aided by establishing a voter-supported reparations committee to make recommendations for housing and economic development programs that address historical discrimination against the Black community in Detroit; AND

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a voter initiative shall be placed on the November 2021 ballot asking "*Should the City of Detroit establish a Reparations Committee to make recommendations for housing and economic development programs that address historical discrimination against the Black community in Detroit?*"