



OCFO

Office of the
Chief Financial Officer



Community Outreach Report

**FOR THE MAYOR'S PROPOSED
FY 2024-2025 BUDGET AND
FY 2025-2028 FOUR-YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN**

MARCH 2024

**Prepared by the Office of Budget
within the Office of the Chief Financial Officer**

Submitted to City Council in fulfillment of the requirements of Article X,
Community Outreach, of Chapter 12 of the 2019 Detroit City Code

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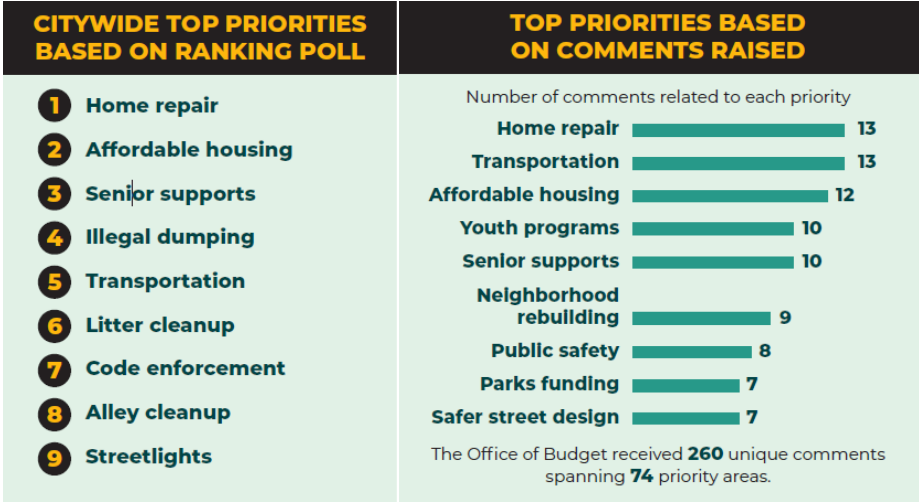
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Executive Summary

The Office of Budget, in partnership with the Department of Neighborhoods, conducted ten meetings throughout the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (“FY25 Budget”) budget development process: two Annual Public Budget Meetings and eight District Budget Priorities Forums (one for each Council District plus an additional meeting in District 1 to account for the first meeting being held on the same night as a mayoral public meeting). The purpose of these meetings was to provide information on how the budget process works and to hear residents’ budget priorities in accordance with the City Charter and Community Outreach Ordinance. Meetings included a presentation on the budget and an interactive public comment period.

WHAT THE BUDGET OFFICE HEARD FROM RESIDENTS

Residents voiced what they would like to see prioritized in the FY25 Budget and the Budget Office took notes on every item mentioned and grouped the items into priorities. At each District Budget Priorities Forum, the Budget Office asked participants to rank the top nine priorities heard from last year. The graphic on the left represents the results from this poll. The graphic on the right represents the top priorities from the comments shared outside of the ranked-choice polling question:



This report provides a detailed breakdown of priorities raised by district. Information on district priorities begins on page 19.

HOW THE FY25 BUDGET ADDRESSES RESIDENT CONCERNS

The FY25 Budget addresses most concerns raised by residents, either directly through budget funding or indirectly through City or non-City programming. This report explains how the FY25 Budget addresses each priority. The report groups priorities under each department that has responsibility for that priority and provides an explanation for how the department addresses that priority.

Introduction

In accordance with Chapter 12, Article X of the 2019 Detroit City Code (the “Community Outreach Ordinance”), the Mayor’s proposed annual budget to the City Council constitutes a “city-wide proposal” under the ordinance and is subject to the following community outreach process:

- (1) Prior to submitting a City-wide Proposal to City Council for consideration, a representative of the Administering Department, in collaboration with the Department of Neighborhoods, shall hold one outreach meeting in each of the seven City Council districts.
- (2) The Administering Department shall present an Administrative Summary of the proposed legislation, contract, agreement, or resolution at the meeting(s) required under Subsection (1) of this section and discuss ways in which the proposed legislation, contract, agreement, or resolution is anticipated to affect the impacted neighborhood.
- (3) If an outreach meeting is not feasible, technology-aided outreach may be used to allow community input for a minimum of four weeks.
- (4) The Administering Department, in collaboration with the Department of Neighborhoods, shall provide a Community Outreach Report to City Council regarding the proposed legislation, contract, agreement, or resolution prior to the request for any approval of a City-wide Proposal. The Community Outreach Report shall contain:
 - a. A detailed account of notice provided to organize the community outreach process;
 - b. An itemized list of concerns raised by the impacted neighborhood during the outreach process required under this article;
 - c. Any proposed method to address the concerns raised by the impacted community, or why a particular concern will not be addressed;
 - d. Any submitted letters, comments, or reports from a resident, business, neighborhood organization, or community group within the City of Detroit; and
 - e. If provided, a report from the established Community Advisory Council within each district.

The Office of the Chief Financial Officer, and specifically its Office of Budget, is the administering department for the Mayor’s proposed annual budget. This report constitutes the Community Outreach Report to City Council on the Mayor’s proposed annual budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. This report fulfills the requirements of the Community Outreach Ordinance in the following ways (**bolded phrases** reflect the exact language of the Community Outreach Ordinance):

- The Meeting Notice & Details section includes **a detailed account of notice provided to organize the community outreach process.**
- The section on Summary of Concerns Raised provides an **itemized list of concerns raised by the impacted neighborhoods during the outreach process.**
- The section on How the Budget Addresses Concerns Raised, including the tables of concerns by City department and how the FY25 budget responds to each of those concerns, includes **any proposed method to address the concerns raised by the impacted community, or why a particular concern will not be addressed.**
- A spreadsheet catalog of all resident comments is included in the appendices, therefore providing **any submitted letters, comments, or reports from a resident, business, neighborhood organization, or community group within the City of Detroit.**

Meeting Notice and Details

The Community Outreach Ordinance (COO) requires that the FY2024-2025 Budget (“FY25 Budget”) is informed by a public outreach campaign. The Office of the Budget’s outreach campaign included two Annual Public Budget Meetings, as well as eight District Budget Priorities Forums (one for each Council District, plus an additional meeting in District 1 to account for the first meeting happening on the same night a mayoral public meeting). These meetings were held via Zoom, and for the first meeting in District 1, residents were also able to attend in-person. This is a report of findings and insights from those public outreach efforts.

MEETING DATES AND PARTICIPANT ENGAGEMENT

District	Meeting Date & Time	Approx. # of Attendees	Approx. # of Participants - Zoom	Approx. # of Participants - Slido
APBM Part 1: City Service Departments	September 18, 2023 @5 p.m.	112	14	N/A
APBM Part 2: Public Health & Safety Departments	September 25, 2023 @5 p.m.	136	12	N/A
District 1 – Part 1	October 26, 2023 @5:30 p.m.	46	9	11
District 1 – Part 2	November 30, 2023 @5:30 p.m.	14	-	4
District 2	October 10, 2023 @6 p.m.	51	10	11
District 3	October 24, 2023 @6 p.m.	34	12	3
District 4	October 24, 2023 @5 p.m.	51	13	9
District 5	October 18, 2023 @6 p.m.	45	18	6
District 6	October 19, 2023 @5 p.m.	58	9	13
District 7	October 25, 2023 @5 p.m.	62	23	5

The number of attendees is reflective of the maximum number of attendees who joined the meeting, according to Zoom. This count includes those hosting the meeting and others who may have joined in official City employee capacity. It should be noted that the number of attendees often fluctuated throughout the duration of the meeting.

The number of participants is reflective of the approximate number of attendees who participated by sharing their thoughts in some manner during the meeting. The number of participants is separated between Zoom and Slido – the online engagement platform – since participants’ identity can remain anonymous in Slido, thus we cannot know which participants may have participated through both platforms. For the District 1 – Part 1 meeting, there were 9 in-person participants.

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Residents were notified about these community meetings via email through the City’s GovDelivery outreach system, as well as through Department of Neighborhood regular meeting notices.

Flyer/Notice	Date Sent	# of Recipients	Open Rate
Public Notice Flyer (Annual Public Budget Meetings)	9/13/2023	31,477	25%
Media Advisory (D1)	10/26/2023	410	34%
Media Advisory (D2)	10/09/2023	3,329	28%
Media Advisory (D3 & D4)	10/24/2023	411	34%
Media Advisory (D5 & D6)	10/17/2023	3,364	28%
Media Advisory (D7)	10/25/2023	411	36%

Note: Notices for D2, D5, and D6 were inadvertently distributed to a list that included ARPA contactees, resulting in higher distribution rate for these districts.

MEETING & INPUT STRUCTURE

Annual Public Budget Meetings

The Annual Public Budget Meeting is an informational meeting on how the budget process works. It also highlights key budget components of several major departments, as mandated by the City Charter. The Annual Public Budget Meeting is split into two parts to shorten the length of the meetings and allow more time for public comment. Part one included general city service departments (General Services, Public Works, and Water & Sewer) and part two included health and safety departments (Public Lighting Department, Public Lighting Authority, Fire, Health, and Police). The Office of Budget worked with the Department of Neighborhoods (DONs) to hold these Annual Public Budget Meetings during two of the weekly DON Cast meetings throughout the month of October.

Each meeting began with a brief (~10 minute) presentation by the Budget Director to inform residents on key budget highlights. This was followed by a short (5-7 minute) presentation from each of the City Charter-mandated departments. The public comment period opened after all presentations concluded, during which time residents were able to ask questions to any of the department representatives present. The public comment portion lasted approximately 30 minutes, at which point the Department of Neighborhoods representative gave closing remarks and ended the meeting.

District Budget Priorities Forums

The District Budget Priorities Forums are meetings hosted in each council district to hear residents' budget priorities. The Office of Budget worked with the Department of Neighborhoods (DONs) to hold the Budget Priorities Forums during the DONs standing monthly District Meetings throughout the month of October. One additional meeting was held in November for District 1, since a mayoral address to the public took place on the same day the first scheduled meeting was held in District 1.

Each meeting began with a brief (~10 minute) presentation by either the Budget Director or Deputy Budget Director to inform residents on key budget highlights. This was followed by an interactive question and answer portion, in which the Office of Budget representative prompted polling questions and residents were given the opportunity to respond verbally, via the Zoom chat feature, or anonymously via an online engagement platform called Slido. Time was taken to introduce the platform and provide residents with instructions on how they could join as a participant. The four questions asked of residents were as follows:

1. What would you like to see prioritized in the budget?
2. These are the priorities that we heard last year across the City. How would you rank these priorities?
3. How would you like to see [priority #1 from the ranked-choice poll] be improved?
4. How would you like to see [priority #2 from the ranked-choice poll] be improved?

After each question was launched, residents were given a few minutes to respond before the polling question closed and responses were screen shared.

The first question was structured as a word cloud, which showed the most frequently stated responses in larger-sized text, and lesser-given answers in smaller-sized text (see Figure 1).

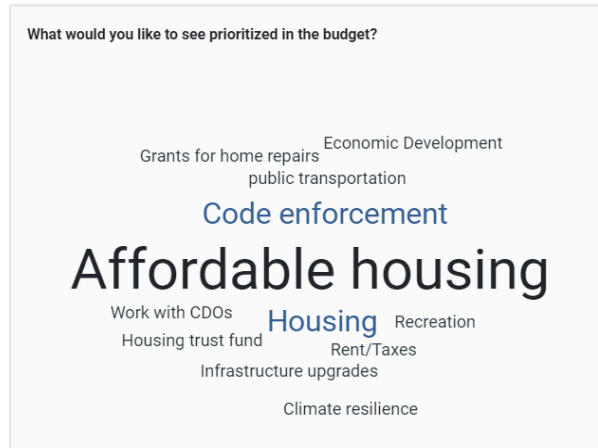


Figure 1. Question 1 launched in the Slido platform

The second question compiled priorities stated across all city districts during last fiscal year’s forums and asked residents to rank them in order of highest to lowest priority (see Figure 2).

The third and fourth questions took the top responses from the polling question and asked residents to provide ideas for how they would like to see those priorities be addressed. These were structured to be open-ended and showed responses as a thread of comments (see Figure 3).

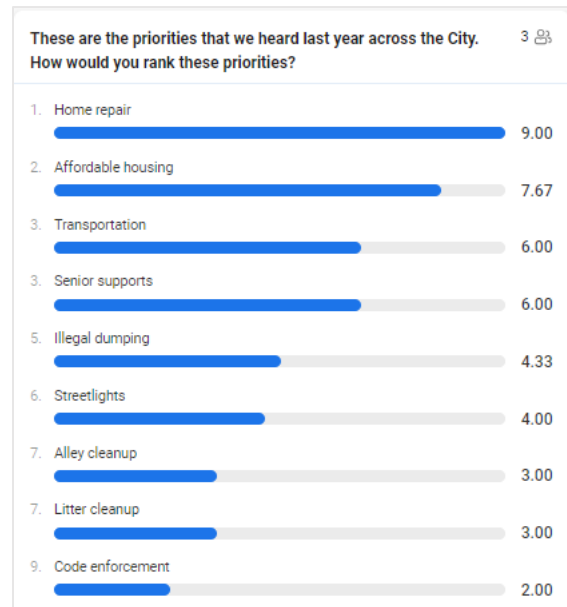


Figure 2. Question 2 launched in the Slido platform

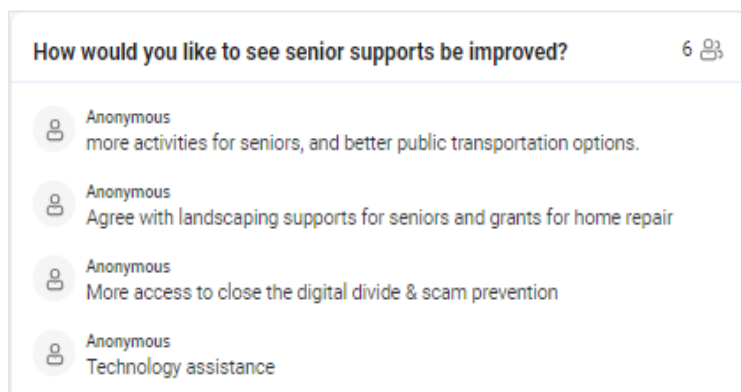


Figure 3. Question 3 launched in the Slido platform

After the responses to each question were shown and briefly reviewed by the Office of Budget representative, time was allotted for residents to comment further. Only after all resident input was heard was the next polling question was launched. After all questions and comment periods were completed, the Department of Neighborhoods representative gave closing remarks and ended the meeting.

Your Budget Inbox

The Office of Budget maintains an inbox for the yourbudget@detroitmi.gov email to provide residents with another channel to voice priorities, concerns, and questions around the budget. All emails sent to this inbox receive an automatic reply letting senders know their message has been received. The Office of Budget follows up on these emails by either responding to inquiries or recording any concerns or priorities stated in a public comment log.

Summary of Concerns Raised

METHODOLOGY

The seven districts in Detroit represent diverse geographic areas with unique interests and priorities. To capture the uniqueness of each district, as well as the similarities, the following pages summarize the comments heard from each district. The Budget Office hosted ten public meetings in October and November 2023 to hear residents' priorities for the FY25 Budget. The Budget Office hosted two Annual Public Budget Meetings, where the Budget Office partnered with representatives from several City departments to present to residents the budgets of those departments. After department presentations, residents had the opportunity for public comment. If a resident stated what district they were from during this public comment period, the Budget Office noted the resident's district. Following the Annual Public Budget Meetings, the Budget Office hosted at least one Budget Priorities Forum in each of the seven districts in the City. The Budget Office hosted two forums in District 1

because another City meeting conflicted with the first forum in District 1, and the City wanted to ensure that all District 1 residents had the opportunity to share their priorities with the Budget Office. The tables that follow summarize comments by district, both from residents who stated their district at the Annual Public Budget Meetings and from the comments heard during the Budget Priorities Forum in that district.

CLASSIFICATION OF CONCERNS

Staff from the Budget Office attended each public meeting and took notes on each comment spoken or written by residents. After all meetings were completed, the Budget Office compiled the comments into an Excel database and manually reviewed each comment for priorities mentioned. A **priority**, in the context of this report, is defined as a specific topic that is important to a resident, as stated or written in their comment. One comment could include no priorities, one priority, or many priorities. If a comment included many priorities, the Budget Office noted all priorities raised in that comment. In this way, the Budget Office's list of priorities developed organically from residents' comments. As the list of priorities developed, the Budget Office grouped the priorities into categories. In the context of this report, a **category** is the overall theme that emerged from a grouping of priorities. The purpose of grouping the priorities into categories was to summarize concisely what is important to residents across the city.

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES

The Budget Office developed the ten categories organically from the priorities noted from residents' comments. For the clarity of this report, the information below provides a summary statement of each category.

- **Beautification:** residents desire a clean, beautiful city. This category encompasses any priority related to cleaning up the city, from dealing with abandoned homes, to picking up trash, clearing alleys and drains, controlling rodents and pests, and removing dangerous trees.
- **Climate & Sustainability:** residents would like to see a city that is prepared for a changing climate, including the resiliency of infrastructure and how the city will deal with water and flooding, both past and present.
- **Economic Opportunity Programs:** residents want to see a city that prioritizes equity and provides opportunities for residents to improve and sustain their economic situations, from fixing the digital divide, to providing programs for youth and job training.

- **Economic Supports:** residents want direct financial support from the city government to remedy certain situations or improve the economic situation of the city as a whole. This includes supporting seniors and people living with disabilities, small businesses, providing tax assistance, and fostering economic development in the city.
- **Government Accountability:** Residents would like a government that is efficient, effective, and responsive to their needs. They would like the government to engage more with the community and be transparent in its efforts and programs.
- **Health:** Residents desire access to healthcare, mental health supports, nutritious food, and a healthy environment.
- **Housing:** Residents would like a city with adequate housing that is truly affordable for Detroit residents. They would like programs to support home repair, homeownership, renters, and housing insecure persons.
- **Neighborhood Infrastructure, Design, & Transportation:** Residents desire many citywide improvements as well as improvements to their own neighborhoods, from safer street design, to streetlights, sidewalks, fire hydrant improvements, to more accessible transportation. They also would like support for community groups to make change themselves.
- **Public Safety:** Residents would like a focus on public safety, from better code enforcement across the city, to increased enforcement of noise regulations, speed regulations, monitoring of parked cars, and cameras to keep neighborhoods safe. Some residents desired greater police presence, better police responsiveness, or a police audit.
- **Recreation & Parks:** Residents desire greater recreational opportunities across the city, from rec centers to parks.

EXPLANATION AND SUMMARY OF PRIORITIES

The following table summarizes all priorities stated in all public meetings, mentioned aloud, by chat, or in the Slido platform. It also includes all priorities received through the Your Budget inbox.

Category	Priority	# Mentions	Summary of Priority	Example Comment
Beautification	Abandoned homes	3	The City should do more about vacant houses	“Vacant houses – we need something done about these vacant houses; they’re still paying taxes on it, but they need to be torn down or let people buy houses so we can get people in them and looking better”

Category	Priority	# Mentions	Summary of Priority	Example Comment
	Alley cleanup	3	The City should clear alleyways	"Clear and fix alleyways"
	Beautification	7	The City should be beautiful and clean	"Getting the city overall cleaned up"
	Demolition	1	Consider demolition of houses and dangerous buildings	"Increase demolition of hazardous and dangerous commercial properties"
	Drain clearing	2	Clogged drains are a problem and the City needs to clear them	"Asking about sewer and drain lines being cleaned; how many still need to be cleaned and which ones are on the list?"
	Eliminate blight	5	The City should take efforts to get rid of blight	"Blight Blitz – identify areas that have a problem; coordinate with various departments (GSD, BSEED, DON, DPD) and pick up the blight"
	Grass cutting	3	The City should increase the number of times it conducts vacant lot grass cutting	"More care cuts in the summer time on vacant lots"
	Illegal dumping	4	The City needs to do more to stop illegal dumping	"Illegal dumping clean up weekly including cameras in those active areas"
	Litter cleanup	2	We should have a clean and litter free city	"Parks free of litter"
	Street cleaning	1	The City should be more efficient at sweeping streets	"Better machines for street cleanup"
	Trash pickup improvements	5	Improve the cleanliness of the city and effectiveness of trash services	"Invest more in trash pickup. Other cities nearby don't have as much litter on their streets compared to Detroit"
	Tree removal / trimming	6	We need support in cleaning up fallen trees and trimming dangerous branches	"And we're having problems with trees; we need to get something done with trees; we've got dead city trees that need to be cut down; roots are coming up from the ground"
	Vacant lot cleanup	3	The City should do more about vacant lots	"I like to see something like homes be built in these vacant lots. Vacant lots are not being utilized created illegal dumping."
Climate & Sustainability	Green infrastructure	3	More green space and initiatives	"Natural green space – green cooling"
	Sustainability & resilience	3	The City should address environmental concerns and promote climate resilience	"We need a community that's sustainable, that's dealing with pollution and all this economic fall, with traffic and food shortage"
	Urban agriculture	2	The City should focus on sustainability and promote urban agriculture growth	"It would be good to see funding go into sustainable community development and urban farming"
	Water & sewer infrastructure	6	Replace water lines and prevent flooding from sewers	"I feel our neighborhood water lines need to be replaced. What needs to take place to make that happen?"
Economic Opportunity Programs	Better schools	4	Improve schools and increase school funding	"Schools need to be improved. It's our future"
	Citizen education programs	3	The City should run programs to educate residents about key topics and issues	"Will there ever be community outreach to learn prevention measure, lawn care, etc. Need knowledge on issues in the community"

Category	Priority	# Mentions	Summary of Priority	Example Comment
				- will outreach provide resources and knowledge for the community"
	Digital divide	3	The City should promote equal access to technology	"Address digital divide"
	Economic equity	3	Support all people through social programs and decrease economic inequality	"Equity programs"
	Financial training	1	The City should provide training for improved financial literacy	"Credit repair"
	Immigrant supports	1	The City should provide services and support systems for recent immigrants	"Shelter for new immigrants"
	Job training & hiring	4	Promote good wage jobs and help Detroiters get hired	"We want a community neighborhood hiring effort so everyone has a job"
	Libraries	4	Support funding for libraries	"More funding for public libraries"
	Returning citizens support	1	The City should do more to support returning citizens	"Returning citizens"
	Youth programs	10	The City should expand programs for young people	"Youth services that have neighborhood recreational activities throughout the year for kids grade k-12"
Economic Supports	Disability supports	84	The City should increase accessibility and support for residents with disabilities	"More monies be allocated for seniors and people with disabilities to help make their homes handicapped accessible"
	Economic development	1	Increase presence of stores and make the city more economically vibrant	"More retail stores in the City"
	Flood reimbursement	1	Help residents who faced financial hardship due to flooding	"We need flood services for people who in the past who have had flooding happen in their house."
	Retiree supports	2	The City should do more to support retirees	"Pensions"
	Senior supports	10	The City should do more to support senior citizens	"More grant funding for senior home repair assistance. A department dedicated to helping seniors with resources, grants for aging in place."
	Single parent support	1	The City should do more to support single parents	"budget counseling for single mothers"
	Small business support	2	There should be more grants and programs for small businesses	"Neighborhood business development grants for those that within the community and offer meet the criteria to start a business such as business plan, experience, mentorship"
	Water affordability	1	Make water more affordable for residents	"How do Water and Sewer come up with how much they charge; larger than any suburb in the area; why don't they have a hearing around this? Somehow or another you're making your rates up by yourself. All the

Category	Priority	# Mentions	Summary of Priority	Example Comment
				revenue they receive is what they can spend. Where is this being watched?"
Government Accountability	Community engagement	2	The City should do more to engage with the community	"I'd prefer that future surveys "community engagement" efforts were more transparent, inclusive, and accessible to a broader consistency."
	Community involvement in budget	1	Involve the public more in the budget process	"Would like to know how the public be involved in deciding how the prior year surplus money is spent"
	Effective city services	5	The City should provide functional, efficient, and effective city services	"I'd like for there to be quality city services. Less debris. I'd like to experience a safe and clean city."
	Government responsiveness	4	The City needs to be responsive to resident issues and concerns	"Accountability and response follow up-when residents and block clubs request assistance from city departments there is very little accountability on resolution of issues raised and slow paced improvement with city services."
	Tax fairness	4	Reduce tax burden on residents	"End excessive tax capture"
	Transparency in budget	5	Ensure what goes into the budget and how money is spent is as transparent as possible	"Total transparency to include where every \$ go."
Health	Accessible health care	4	Provide residents access to health care within their neighborhoods	"Community based health centers to aid preventative health, mental health, sexual health"
	Environmental health	1	Ensure residents have access to a healthy environment	"Public health especially around air quality"
	Food accessibility	2	Increase the number of food retailers in the City	"I would like to see more major grocery stores in the City in addition to a Costco or a Sam's. This way we can shop in the City a win, win."
	Mental health response	2	Prioritize mental health resources and programs	"I would like to see mental health made available to those who require it."
	STI testing	1	Adequately fund the City's STI testing program	"The city's STI testing program is a start, but it needs to be expanded."
Housing	Affordable housing	10	Maintain high-quality, accessible affordable housing for Detroiters	"Quality affordable housing"
	Expanded affordable housing	3	The City needs to ensure affordable housing is truly affordable and inclusive of long-time Detroit residents	"Truly affordable housing for Detroiters"
	Expanded home repair	2	The City should offer home repair programs for middle income and non-senior residents	"My focus is on home repairs. I've been listening to a lot of meetings and a lot of home repairs are focused on seniors and I think that's beautiful, but where are the programs and resources for those who don't

Category	Priority	# Mentions	Summary of Priority	Example Comment
				qualify through other categories? I would like to learn more about things that can help prevent things from getting in disrepair.”
	Home repair	11	The City should invest more and expand access to home repair programs for more residents	“Porches are falling apart, roofs are falling apart...instead of building up downtown, we should build up our inner communities”
	Land bank reform	3	The Land Bank should be evaluated to ensure it is operating optimally	“More cooperation from Landbank when inquiring properties”
Neighborhood Infrastructure, Design, & Transportation	Bike infrastructure	2	Safe bike infrastructure should be instituted throughout the city	“...you can’t go down the sidewalk...there’s all kinds of concrete and such, it’s really dangerous for bikes”
	Bus improvements	4	Improve buses and shelters and make them more accessible	“public bus stop shelters in neighborhoods” “attractive seats and waste collectors on bus”
	Citywide improvements	2	The City should work to reimagine how the City could be and invest in improving its functions	“More density, more mixed-use, more vibrancy and community gathering – without cars.”
	Community group funding	3	The City should provide funds to support community group initiatives	“Small grants for block club administration & startup costs”
	Fire hydrant optimization	1	Ensuring all fire hydrants are well-maintained	“All fire hydrants need to be operational and painted”
	Lead pipe replacement	1	The City should support residents needing to replace lead pipes	“Additionally, lead pipe replacement considerations: how many Detroiters would have the capacity to afford the costs?”
	Neighborhood rebuilding	10	The City should focus on creating connected, walkable, and vibrant communities	“More contiguous neighborhoods e.g., the ability to walk through neighborhoods and see continued commercial activity, intact and up kept residential areas.”
	Parking	3	Improve parking to meet the needs of all Detroiters	“During events like festivals, there should be dedicated golf carts to take disabled and seniors from parking lots to Hart Plaza and Convention Center”
	Safer street design	8	Need to improve street safety and walkability across the City, especially for children’s sake	“We need safe routes established so kids can get to school, parks, library, and public centers without needing to be driven by an adult. Current set up leaves kids behind and without community connection”
	Sidewalks	6	The City should replace/repair damaged sidewalks as a result of demolitions	“I was going to speak on sidewalks...seeing the work they’re doing, and not one accessible sidewalk was level with the street. That’s dangerous.”
	Street repair	6	The City should make streets safer to drive on	“Our streets need work bad. Our cars, trucks break down every other day because of big potholes”
	Streetlights	3	Ensuring high-quality streetlights are put in	“I want to talk in favor of streetlights. The policy is to have 2 streetlights on a block. I

Category	Priority	# Mentions	Summary of Priority	Example Comment
			throughout the City in an equitable manner	think the City needs to put 3 streetlights on every block.”
	Transportation	14	Improve the reliability and accessibility of transportation in the City	“More accessible public transportation (routes, stops, reliability)”
Public Safety	Cameras in neighborhoods	1	Putting cameras in neighborhoods to deter crime and blight	“Cameras to catch illegal dumpers”
	Code enforcement	5	Ensuring the City does its part to hold property and business owners accountable for proper maintenance	“Ensuring that property owners (including City) maintain properties; ID vacant property owners who don’t maintain property.”
	Enforce speeding	6	Increase means to reduce speeding	“Speed bumps”
	Neighborhood public safety	5	Improve neighborhood safety and create community partnerships with police	“Hire more NPOs with flexible shifts”
	Police presence	3	Residents desire an increased police presence in the neighborhoods	“I would like to see more officers in the neighborhood”
	Police responsiveness	1	Residents want to see police officers be more helpful and responsive to their concerns	“I called the Police...[because] people have been pulling up and flashing their lights, and someone else pulls up behind them. The Police asked me what color is the car? But I can’t see it because it’s too dark. What’s the sense of using 911 if they’re not going to help?”
	Police audit & reform	1	Ensuring police funding and actions are being accounted for and budgeted responsibly	“I support reallocating funding from reactive high tech policing (e.g. shotspotter)...and move it towards affordable housing, health resources, etc.”
	Public safety	8	Residents desire a safe City and city leadership that is responsive to safety concerns	“Safe days and nights, where crime and complaints are handled promptly.”
Recreation & Parks	Less money to parks	1	The City should invest in community stabilization before parks and beautification efforts	“I think the greenways are beautiful, but are they necessary?...I would like to see the money spent stabilizing and getting our community solid first”
	Parks funding	10	The City should ensure parks are well-maintained and offer spaces for activities desired by community members	“More investment in parks and recreation. It’s coming along, but we still have to go outside of the city for better parks. We need more investment in Detroit parks that are accessible to all.”
	Recreation	6	The City should provide more spaces for recreation	“More community spaces for gatherings”
	Recreational facilities improvements	5	The City should improve recreational opportunities and facilities	“I would like O’Shea recreational center to be built back up”

Citywide Summary of Suggestions in Response to Questions 3 and 4

Priority	Suggestion	# comments
Affordable housing	Expanded types of affordable housing – condos, apts, multi-family, small homes	5
	Loosen income requirements for affordable housing	2
Code enforcement	Increase monitoring of frequent illegal dumping spots	4
	Increase fines	3
Home repair	Lift income limits for home repairs programs	18
	Funding for roof repairs	11
Illegal dumping	Increase fines	6
	Security system / cameras for illegal dumping	6
Litter cleanup	Establish deadlines and designated timeframes for cleanups	1
Senior supports	Home / landscape maintenance help	3
	Improve public transportation for seniors	3
	Provide technology access and assistance	3
Streetlights	Increase the number of streetlights on residential blocks	5
	Bring lighting back under City control	2
	Have streetlights face both the street and the buildings	2
Transportation	Create a transit system that connects to the suburbs	4
	Increase bus frequency on routes	3

SUMMARY OF PRIORITIES BY DISTRICT

The following tables present a summary of the priorities stated during the Annual Public Budget Meetings and District Budget Priorities Forums by district. For most district meetings, residents could provide comments aloud, in the chat feature in Zoom, or through the online Slido platform. The Budget Office has shown the priorities stated through Slido separately in the first table for each district because participants in Slido were anonymous. This means that the Budget Office could not know if a resident shared the same priority via Zoom and Slido. Therefore, to avoid potentially over-weighting priorities, the Budget Office presents the responses separately in the following tables.

The second table for each district presents that district's ranking of the issues that were stated as the highest priority in the budget priorities forum held in that district in January-February 2022 as well as the most frequently stated issues from the first polling question of the forum. This question was presented through the Slido platform and allowed each resident to rank the categories. Slido then averaged the rank for each category and presented a summary of the rankings. The results are shown in the second table for each district. The purpose of this question was to determine residents' relative prioritization of these categories against one another and to demonstrate the trade-offs that the City

government and the Budget Office face when having to decide how to allocate dollars among equally important initiatives.

District 1

Summary of Responses to Question 1

Medium	Category	Priority	# comments
Aloud, Chat, & Slido	Neighborhood Infrastructure, Design, & Transportation 11 comments	Bus improvements	2
		Neighborhood rebuilding	2
		Transportation	2
		Community group funding	1
		Parking	1
		Safer street design	1
		Sidewalks	1
		Street repair	1
	Beautification 10 comments	Trash pickup improvements	2
		Abandoned homes	1
		Alley cleanup	1
		Eliminate blight	1
		Grass cutting	1
		Tree removal / trimming	1
	Economic Opportunity Programs 7 comments	Job training & hiring	2
		Youth programs	2
		Better schools	1
		Digital divide	1
		Financial training	1
Public Safety 6 comments	Public safety	3	
	Enforce speeding	2	
	Code enforcement	1	
Recreation & Parks 6 comments	Parks funding	4	
	Recreation	1	
	Recreational facilities improvements	1	
Housing 5 comments	Affordable housing	3	
	Home repair	1	
	Land bank reform	1	
Economic Supports 4 comments	Senior supports	2	
	Economic development	1	
	Single parent support	1	
Climate & Sustainability 3 comments	Sustainability & resilience	1	
	Urban agriculture	1	
	Water & sewer infrastructure	1	
Government Accountability 2 comments	Community engagement	1	
	Government responsiveness	1	
Health 1 comment	Food accessibility	1	

Summary of Ranking Poll Results from Question 2

Priority	Rank	Slido calculated ranking (1 – lowest, 9 – highest)
Transportation	1	5.8
Code Enforcement	2	5.7
Home Repair	3	5.3
Affordable Housing	4	5.2
Alley Cleanup	5	5.0
Litter Cleanup	6	4.6
Senior Supports	7	4.4
Illegal Dumping	8	4.3
Streetlights	8	4.3

Summary of Suggestions Given in Response to Questions 3 and 4

Priority	Suggestion	# comments
Code enforcement	Increase monitoring of frequent illegal dumping spots	4
	Security system / cameras for illegal dumping - code enforcement	4
	Increase fines	3
	Increase frequency of code enforcement inspections	2
	Increase penalties	2
	Increase ticketing	2
	Post photos of those who dump illegally	2
	Remove donation boxes	2
	Ad campaign on beautification	1
	Coordinated blight reduction effort across multiple departments	1
	Hire additional inspectors	1
	Increase compliance	1
Increase frequency of pickups	1	
Senior supports	Home / landscape maintenance help	1
	More bus seats/benches for seniors	1
Home repair	Lift income limits for home repairs programs	5
	Timeliness in home repair programs / services	3
	Training for how to receive home repair grants	3
	Create and publish list of certified vendors	2
	More funding for tree program	2
	Allow for multiple repairs	1
	Consider length of residency in qualification of programs	1
	Create curb appeal programs	1
	Create home repair programs for local landlords	1
	Fund basement waterproofing	1
	Fund repairs for seniors to stay in their homes	1
	Funding for beautification and safety	1
Funding for garage repairs	1	

	Funding for porch repairs	1
	Funding for roof repairs	1
	Funding for sidewalk repairs	1
	Greater selection of repairs	1
	Have home repair grants for historic districts	1
	Home repair for seniors	1
	Improve access to application	1
	Improve messaging for home repair programs	1
	Incentives to homeowners to repair homes	1
	Lift income limits for home repairs programs for seniors	1
	Offer alternatives for those who don't qualify	1
	Provide assistance for seniors applying to programs	1
	Remove requirements associated with block clubs	1
Illegal dumping	Increase fines	5
	Security system / cameras for illegal dumping	3
	Improve timeliness of cleanup and pickup	2
	Increase frequency of inspections	2
	Attach fines to property taxes	1
	Find process efficiencies around selling vacant lots	1
	Greater enforcement	1
	Higher fines for non-Detroit resident offenders	1
	Improve accuracy of blight violations	1
	Improve ease of pickups	1
	Increase fines for repeat offenders	1
	Increase frequency of pickups	1
	Increase monitoring of frequent illegal dumping spots	1
	Increase ticketing	1
	Involve authorities more	1
Provide rewards for reporting illegal dumping	1	

District 2

Summary of Responses to Question 1

Medium	Category	Priority	# comments
Aloud, Chat, & Slido	Neighborhood Infrastructure, Design, & Transportation 8 comments	Transportation	3
		Bus improvements	1
		Community group funding	1
		Safer street design	1
		Sidewalks	1
		Street repair	1
	Housing	Affordable housing	3

	6 comments	Home repair	2
		Expanded home repair	1
	Beautification 5 comments	Demolition	1
		Eliminate blight	1
		Grass cutting	1
		Illegal dumping	1
		Tree removal / trimming	1
	Climate & Sustainability 3 comments	Sustainability & resilience	2
		Water & sewer infrastructure	1
	Economic Opportunity Programs 3 comments	Economic equity	3
Government Accountability 3 comments	Effective city services	1	
	Government responsiveness	1	
	Transparency in budget	1	
Public Safety 3 comments	Cameras in neighborhoods	1	
	Code enforcement	1	
	Neighborhood public safety	1	
Health 2 comments	Mental health response	2	
Economic Supports 1 comment	Senior supports	1	

Summary of Ranking Poll Results from Question 2

Priority	Rank	Slido calculated ranking (1 – lowest, 9 – highest)
Affordable Housing	1	7.67
Home Repair	2	7.11
Senior Supports	3	6.44
Transportation	4	5.56
Illegal Dumping	5	4.78
Litter Cleanup	6	4.44
Streetlights	7	3.44
Alley Cleanup	8	3.11
Code Enforcement	9	2.44

Summary of Suggestions Given in Response to Questions 3 and 4

Priority	Suggestion	# comments
Affordable housing	Expanded types of affordable housing – condos, apts, multi-family, small homes	5
	Loosen income requirements for affordable housing	2
	Affordable housing for seniors	1
	Automate property tax exemption for low-income residents	1
	City-supported home loans	1
	More mixed-use development	1
	Neighborhood trusts	1

	Property tax reform	1
	Stop speculators	1
	Support for housing insecure persons	1
	Tax overassessment reparations	1
	Tiny homes	1
Home repair	Lift income limits for home repair programs	5
	Create and publish list of certified vendors	2
	Funding for roof repairs	2
	Lift income limits for home repairs programs for seniors	2
	Training for how to do home repairs	2
	Attach blight tickets to property taxes	1
	Create City department for home repair	1
	Funding for porch repairs	1
	Funding for sidewalk repairs	1
	Funding for weatherization and energy efficiency improvements	1
	Funding for window repairs	1
	Home repair tax breaks	1
	No or low interest loans for home repairs	1
	Rehabilitation instead of demolition	1
	Blight ticket exemption for properties undergoing home repair	1
Timeliness in home repair programs / services	1	

District 3

Summary of Responses to Question 1

Medium	Category	Priority	# comments
Aloud, Chat, & Slido	Housing 4 comments	Home repair	2
		Affordable housing	1
		Expanded affordable housing	1
	Beautification 3 comments	Public safety	2
		Enforce speeding	1
	Public safety 3 comments	Community group funding	2
		Fire hydrant optimization	1
		Neighborhood rebuilding	1
		Safer street design	1
		Transportation	1
	Economic supports 2 comments	Disability supports	1
		Senior supports	1
	Neighborhood Infrastructure, Design, & Transportation	Fire hydrant optimization	1
		Lead pipe replacement	1

	2 comments		
	Climate & Sustainability 1 comment	Water & sewer infrastructure	1
	Economic Opportunity Programs 1 comment	Youth programs	1
	Government Accountability 1 comment	Transparency in budget	1

Summary of Ranking Poll Results from Question 2

Priority	Rank	Slido calculated ranking (1 – lowest, 9 – highest)
Illegal Dumping	1	9.00
Litter Cleanup	2	7.00
Code Enforcement	3	6.00
Alley Cleanup	3	6.00
Affordable Housing	3	6.00
Senior Supports	6	3.50
Home Repair	7	2.50
Transportation	7	2.50
Streetlights	7	2.50

Summary of Suggestions Given in Response to Questions 3 and 4

Priority	Suggestion	# comments
Illegal dumping	Enforce high penalties	1
	Focus on prevention	1
	Greater enforcement	1
	Hire additional workers	1
	Improve timeliness of cleanup and pickup	1
	More trash cans	1
	Security system / cameras for illegal dumping	1
Litter cleanup	Establish deadlines and designated timeframes for cleanups	1

District 4

Summary of Responses to Question 1

Medium	Category	Priority	# comments
Aloud, Chat, & Slido	Neighborhood Infrastructure, Design, & Transportation 8 comments	Parking	3
		Transportation	2
		Citywide improvements	1
		Neighborhood rebuilding	1

	Sidewalks	1
Economic Opportunity Programs 7 comments	Libraries	2
	Citizen education programs	1
	Digital divide	1
	Job training & hiring	1
	Returning citizen supports	1
	Youth programs	1
	Beautification 6 comments	Abandoned homes
Eliminate blight		1
Illegal dumping		1
Street cleaning		1
Trash pickup improvements		1
Tree removal / trimming		1
Government Accountability 5 comments	Effective city services	2
	Community engagement	1
	Government responsiveness	1
	Tax fairness	1
Public safety 3 comments	Code enforcement	1
	Enforce speeding	1
	Neighborhood public safety	1
Housing 2 comments	Affordable housing	1
	Land bank reform	1
Recreation & Parks 2 comments	Parks funding	2
Climate & Sustainability 1 comment	Green infrastructure	1
Economic supports 1 comment	Senior supports	1

Summary of Ranking Poll Results from Question 2

Priority	Rank	Slido calculated ranking (1 - lowest, 9 - highest)
Transportation	1	6.11
Home Repair	2	5.78
Senior Supports	2	5.78
Illegal Dumping	4	5.67
Code Enforcement	5	5.56
Litter Cleanup	6	5.33
Affordable Housing	7	4.89
Alley Cleanup	8	3.00
Streetlights	9	2.89

Summary of Suggestions Given in Response to Questions 3 and 4

Priority	Suggestion	# comments
Transportation	Create a transit system that connects to the suburbs	4
	Increase bus frequency on routes	3
	Improve bus timeliness	2
	Be able to pay for bus fares online and scan proof of payment on buses	1
	Be more intentional in designing bus stops	1
	Bus ambassadors to replace transit police	1
	Expanded city transit	1
	Have dedicated bus lanes	1
	Have schedule available online	1
	Have seating at all bus stops	1
	Increase bus driver pay	1
	Increase transportation options	1
	Increased security on buses	1
	More bus shelters and benches	1
	More transit for seniors	1
	Home repair	No transit charge for students and workers
Train bus drivers on the needs of residents with disabilities		1
Expand routes within the city		1
Have street bump outs for bus stops		1
Improve messaging for home repair programs		3
Create and publish list of certified vendors		2
Lift income limits for home repair programs		2
Timeliness in home repair programs / services		2
Training for how to receive home repair grants		2
Connect residents with Detroit-based contractors		1
Coordinate programs through case management		1
Decrease access barriers		1
Funding for weatherization and energy efficiency improvements		1
Have friendly competitions to incentivize home repairs by block		1
Improve transparency for home repair programs	1	
Improved Land Bank process	1	
Lift income limits for home repairs programs for seniors	1	
Partner with trade schools	1	

District 5

Summary of Responses to Question 1

Medium	Category	Priority	# comments
Aloud, Chat, & Slido	Neighborhood Infrastructure, Design, & Transportation 8 comments	Street repair	2
		Transportation	2
		Bus improvements	1
		Community group funding	1
		Neighborhood rebuilding	1
		Sidewalks	1
	Beautification 7 comments	Alley cleanup	2
		Beautification	1
		Eliminate blight	1
		Litter cleanup	1
		Trash pickup improvements	1
		Tree removal / trimming	1
	Public Safety 3 comments	Code enforcement	1
		Neighborhood public safety	1
		Police responsiveness	1
	Recreation & Parks 3 comments	Recreation	2
Recreational facilities improvements		1	
Climate & Sustainability 2 comments	Urban agriculture	1	
	Water & sewer infrastructure	1	
Economic Opportunity Programs 2 comments	Citizen education programs	1	
	Youth programs	1	
Housing 1 comment	Expanded home repair	1	

Summary of Ranking Poll Results from Question 2

Priority	Rank	Slido calculated ranking (1 – lowest, 9 – highest)
Illegal Dumping	1	6.50
Senior Supports	2	6.00
Litter Cleanup	2	6.00
Home Repair	4	5.50
Alley Cleanup	5	5.25
Code Enforcement	6	5.00
Streetlights	7	3.75
Transportation	8	3.50
Affordable Housing	8	3.50

Summary of Suggestions Given in Response to Questions 3 and 4

Priority	Suggestion	# comments
Illegal Dumping	Citizen education campaigns/programs for bulk pickup options	2
	Security system / cameras for illegal dumping	2
	Civilian enforcement	1
	Improve illegal dumping reporting	1
	Increase fines	1
	Increase frequency of pickups	1
	Prosecute developers/contractors who are repeat offenders	1
Prosecute violators	1	
Senior Supports	Provide technology access and assistance	3
	Home / landscape maintenance help	2
	Improve public transportation for seniors	1
	More activities for seniors	1
	Provide home repair grants	1
	Youth program to help seniors with home maintenance	1

District 6

Summary of Responses to Question 1

Medium	Category	Priority	# comments
Aloud, Chat, & Slido	Neighborhood Infrastructure, Design, & Transportation 9 comments	Bike infrastructure	2
		Safer street design	2
		Streetlights	2
		Neighborhood rebuilding	1
		Street repair	1
		Transportation	1
	Economic Opportunity Programs 5 comments	Better schools	2
		Citizen education programs	1
		Immigrant supports	1
	Beautification 4 comments	Youth programs	1
		Eliminate blight	1
		Illegal dumping	1
		Trash pickup improvements	1
	Housing 4 comments	Vacant lot cleanup	1
		Home repair	2
		Affordable housing	1
	Land bank reform	1	

	Public Safety 4 comments	Neighborhood public safety	1
		Police audit & reform	1
		Police presence	1
		Public safety	1
	Recreation & Parks 3 comments	Less money to parks	1
		Parks funding	1
		Recreation	1
	Government Accountability 3 comments	Tax fairness	2
		Effective city services	1
	Health 2 comments	Accessible health care	1
		Environmental health	1
	Climate & Sustainability 1 comment	Green infrastructure	1

Summary of Ranking Poll Results from Question 2

Priority	Rank	Slido calculated ranking (1 – lowest, 9 - highest)
Home Repair	1	6.3
Affordable Housing	2	5.2
Transportation	3	4.7
Streetlights	3	4.7
Senior Supports	5	4.6
Illegal Dumping	6	4.5
Litter Cleanup	7	4.2
Code Enforcement	8	2.6
Alley Cleanup	8	2.6

Summary of Suggestions Given in Response to Questions 3 and 4

Priority	Suggestion	# comments
Home repair	Lift income limits for home repair programs	2
	Lift income limits for home repairs programs for seniors	2
	Consider benefit to residents before contractors with home repair programs	1
	Consider length of residency in qualification of programs	1
	Crack down on contractors taking advantage of seniors	1
	Create more home repair grants	1
	Focus on overall improvement to the community	1
	Funding for porch repairs	1
	Funding for roof repairs	1
	Funding for window repairs	1
	Make home repair programs a grant model, rather than a loan model	1
	Report out more on which contractors are used for home repair programs and their ratings	1
	Use IRA funding to support energy efficiency home repairs	1

Streetlights	Increase the number of streetlights on residential blocks	5
	Bring lighting back under city control	2
	Have streetlights face both the street and the buildings	2
	Educate the public on how to request new streetlights	1
	Improve brightness and range of light coverage	1
	Increase number of streetlights in alleys	1
	Maintain high responsiveness on Improve Detroit app	1
	Upgrade to LED / efficient lights	1
	Use solar lights	1

District 7

Summary of Responses to Question 1

Medium	Category	Priority	# comments
Aloud, Chat, & Slido	Economic Supports 13 comments	Seniors supports	5
		Disability supports	4
		Small business support	2
		Flood reimbursement	1
		Retiree supports	1
	Neighborhood Infrastructure, Design, & Transportation 10 comments	Neighborhood rebuilding	4
		Transportation	3
		Citywide improvements	1
		Parking	1
		Sidewalks	1
	Housing 6 comments	Home repair	4
		Expanded affordable housing	2
	Beautification 5 comments	Vacant lot cleanup	2
Abandoned homes		1	
Drain clearing		1	
Illegal dumping		1	
Economic Opportunity Programs 4 comments	Youth programs	4	
Recreation & Parks 3 comments	Recreational facilities improvements	2	
	Recreation	1	
Public Safety 2 comments	Public safety	2	
Climate & Sustainability 1 comment	Green infrastructure	1	
Government Accountability 1 comment	Effective city services	1	

Summary of Ranking Poll Results from Question 2

Priority	Rank	Slido calculated ranking (1 – lowest, 9 – highest)
Home Repair	1	9.00
Affordable Housing	2	7.67
Transportation	3	6.00
Senior Supports	3	6.00
Illegal Dumping	5	4.33
Streetlights	6	4.00
Alley Cleanup	7	3.00
Litter Cleanup	7	3.00
Code Enforcement	9	2.00

Summary of Suggestions Given in Response to Questions 3 and 4

Priority	Suggestion	# comments
Home repair	Funding for roof repairs	7
	Lift income requirements for home repair programs	4
	Fund heating, cooling, and electrical systems	3
	Funding for porch repairs	3
	Funding for sidewalk repairs	3
	Fund basement waterproofing	2
	Funding for fence repairs	2
	Funding for plumbing / pipes	2
	Better responsiveness in home repair programs	1
	Fix zero percent loan program	1
	Fund repairs for seniors to stay in their homes	1
	Funding for basements	1
	Funding for foundations	1
	Funding for garage repairs	1
	Funding for masonry repair	1
	Funding for siding	1
	Funding for weatherization and energy efficiency improvements	1
	Funding for window repairs	1
	Partner with trade schools	1
Timeliness in home repair programs / services	1	
Training for how to receive home repair grants	1	
Senior supports	Improve public transportation for seniors	2
	Education for seniors about government programs	1
	Ensure homes are up to code	1
	Expand home repair programs to serve more seniors	1
	Fund aquatic wellness centers for seniors and disabled residents	1
	Money allocated for seniors	1
	More activities for seniors	1
	More bus seats / benches for seniors	1

How the Budget Addresses Concerns

The tables below summarize resident stated priorities broken out by the department(s) responsible for those priorities. The number of comments includes those stated verbally, via the chat feature on Zoom, as well as Slido questions 1 and 3. The number also includes priorities received through the Your Budget inbox. Many of the responses below describe programs that the department runs to support the priority.

BUILDINGS, SAFETY, AND ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT (BSEED)

Priority	# of comments
Code enforcement	5

Code enforcement: The Property Maintenance Bureau within BSEED ensures continued compliance for commercial and residential properties. The Bureau enforces the Property Maintenance Code and the Rental Ordinance. To support BSEED's Order Demolition and Certificate of Compliance Initiative, there will be a total of 127 positions within the Dangerous Building and Property Maintenance Enforcement Divisions in FY25. Property maintenance enforcement accounts for roughly 29% of BSEED's overall budget and 35% of BSEED's total FTEs.

CIVIL RIGHTS, INCLUSION, AND OPPORTUNITY DEPARTMENT (CRIO)

Priority	# of comments
Disability supports	84
Economic equity	3

Disability supports: CRIO maintains an Office of Disability Affairs (ODA) that works to increase independence, opportunities, community participation, safety, and wellness for persons with disabilities in the City of Detroit. The FY25 Mayor's Recommended Budget for ODA is \$823,356. The FY24 Adopted Budget also included \$350,000 in one-time funding for a disparity study.

Economic equity: The Civil Rights, Inclusion, and Opportunity Department (CRIO) removes discriminatory barriers through innovative and high-quality, customer-driven programs that foster economic opportunity and empowerment, which will benefit Detroit residents, visitors, and the entrepreneurial sector of the local economy.

DETROIT CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION DEPARTMENT (CDD)

Priority	# of comments
Abandoned homes	3
Demolition	1

Abandoned homes: Several residents expressed concerns that the City should do more to address the many abandoned homes throughout Detroit. The City addresses abandoned homes through both rehabilitation and demolition, and CDD is involved in securing and demolishing abandoned homes. Please see the answer below (“Demolition”) for how the Construction and Demolition department addresses this issue and the funding for demolition in the FY25 budget.

Demolition: The Construction and Demolition Department engages in both residential and commercial demolitions. Properties are identified for demolition through determinations by either the Detroit Land Bank or the Buildings Safety, Engineering, and Environmental Department (BSEED) that a property is in a condition such that it cannot be rehabilitated or poses an imminent threat to the health and safety of the public. The department secures structures that are candidates for sale and rehabilitation. CDD’s proposed FY25 budget includes funding dedicated to emergency demolitions, board-ups with plywood, and securing with clearboard. Additionally, the department is continuing to spend funds from the sale of bonds authorized when voters approved Proposal N.

DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY (DOIT)

Priority	# of comments
Digital divide	3

Digital divide: The Department of Innovation and Technology (DoIT) is a digital enabler for the residents it serves, and the department aims to leverage digital potential for all Detroiters. DoIT implemented a pilot program in one neighborhood in Detroit to install fiber optic cable and connect the neighborhood to high-speed internet and has plans to expand the pilot in coming years. In March 2023, the department also hired the City’s first Digital Equity Director. The FY25 Budget supports DoIT’s efforts to close the digital divide.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (DPW)

Priority	# of comments
Bike infrastructure	2
Green infrastructure	3
Illegal dumping	4
Safer street design	8
Sidewalks	6
Street cleaning	1
Street repair	6
Sustainability & resilience	3
Trash pick-up improvements	5

Bike infrastructure: The FY 2025 budget includes support for DPW’s Complete Streets team, which helps make commercial corridors safer for cyclists by building bike infrastructure. Additionally, the FY 2025 budget supports management of the Joe Louis Greenway project, a walking and biking trail that will extend 27.5 miles from the Detroit Riverfront to Highland Park, Dearborn, and Hamtramck, with connectors along thoroughfares Livernois and McNichols.

Green infrastructure: DPW maintains the City’s viaducts located on public areas. Four times per year, DPW clears each of the hundreds of viaducts across the city. The FY25 Budget continues to support these efforts.

Illegal dumping: DPW, in partnership with the General Services Department, picks up and disposes of thousands of tons of illegally dumped materials every year. The FY25 Budget continues to support DPW’s operations in clearing illegal dumping sites across the city.

Safer street design: DPW’s Traffic Engineering Division works to make the street system safe and fit for public use. It houses a Traffic Sign shop which creates and maintains all street signs in the city. DPW, through its Complete Streets team, continues to beautify commercial corridors, as well as making them safer for pedestrian and vehicular travel through its streetscape projects. Its recently completed “Streets for People: Detroit Street Design Guide,” is used as framework for implementations that aim to make it easier and safer for all Detroiters to move throughout the city. Streets for People is rooted in five values: 1) safety first; 2) equity, dignity, and transparency; 3) access for all; 4) economic opportunity; and 5) public health. The FY25 Budget continues to support all safe street design efforts. Additionally, in February 2023, the City of Detroit received a \$24.8 million grant from the U.S.

Department of Transportation to improve road safety in high-injury areas. The City will continue to spend these grant funds in FY25.

Sidewalks: DPW has a tree-damaged sidewalk repair program budgeted at \$3,326,771 in FY25. This program repairs sidewalks that have been uplifted by a City tree. In general, property owners are responsible for cleaning and maintaining the sidewalk adjacent to their property. To supplement private efforts and the annual sidewalk repair program, in February 2023 the Administration requested and City Council approved a \$20.5 million supplemental appropriation to expand sidewalk replacement through FY23 and FY24. In early 2024, the City further allocated an additional \$10 million in existing Capital funds to continue the sidewalk program through FY25.

Street cleaning: DPW maintains a fleet of trucks that sweep the streets between April and November each year. The street sweeping division sweeps local, major, and state roads. The FY25 Budget continues to support these efforts.

Street repair: DPW’s Street Maintenance Division serves more than 2,500 miles of major and local City streets as well as 29 bridges through pothole repair, residential street resurfacing, installation of speed humps, maintaining viaducts, and management of street closures. The FY25 budget provides more than \$23 million to support Street Maintenance operations, as well as \$22.9 million in dedicated capital funding to support paving and resurfacing, crack sealing, bridge repair, and speed cushions.

Sustainability & resilience: DPW picks up recyclable materials from residential and commercial properties across the city. In summer 2024, DPW will double pickup frequency to begin collecting recycling on a weekly schedule. The FY25 Budget makes additional investments to continue to support DPW’s recycling program and its efforts to continue educating residents on the importance of participating in the City’s recycling program.

Trash pick-up improvements: In summer 2024 DPW will also begin weekly pick-up of bulk trash, yard waste from residential properties and will expand pickup of debris from vacant properties.

DETROIT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DDOT)

Priority	# of comments
Bus improvements	4
Disability supports	84
Transportation	14

Bus improvements: DDOT added 10 cleaner diesel-engines to the fleet in February 2023 along with 28 new cleaner diesel-engine coaches in August 2022. DDOT has also implemented new

procedures to ensure coaches needed to operate daily service are available and in good repair.

Disability supports – Paratransit service: DDOT provides paratransit service for all residents and visitors meeting ADA mobility limitation requirements who are unable to use fixed bus route services.

Transportation: Residents raised several concerns relating to transportation. All priorities were grouped together under “Transportation” in the previous table, but in order to address all concerns raised by residents, the following bullet points address separately each transportation concern.

- **Transportation – Improved service:** The FY 25 budget proposes a \$21.6 million overall increase to DDOT, which supports in part 627 transportation equipment operators, an increase of 117 operators from the FY 24 budget. DDOT has also implemented a quarterly incentive program for Transportation Operators to improve the quality of bus service delivered to Detroiters that enjoy and depend upon DDOT for transportation.
- **Transportation – Community engagement:** DDOT continues to collect the public’s feedback on how to improve Detroit public transportation system as part of DDOT Reimagined, DDOT’s operational analysis and strategic planning initiative to rethink the fixed bus network, improve operations, and create new mobility options. Phase 1 of DDOT Reimagined included interactive in-person and virtual meetings across Detroit and a survey for DDOT’s current, past, and future riders. DDOT will continue to collect public comment in FY25.
- **Transportation – Mobility innovation:** DDOT’s Office of Mobility Innovation (OMI) builds solutions that improve transportation access and experience through public engagement. OMI works across multiple city departments to coordinate cleaner, more accessible, and more equitable mobility solutions for Detroit residents and visitors alike.
- **Transportation – Capital improvements:** In February 2023, the Administration requested, and City Council approved, a \$19.9 million supplemental appropriation in FY23 for public transit capital projects, including additional capital needs for the State Fair Transit Center and the replacement of four People Mover rail cars. The 9-Jefferson, the first Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) pilot project, will introduce BRT Features such as temporary bus stop islands and improved bus shelters in 2024.
- **Transportation – Student transportation:** While DDOT does not have specific programs for school-age children, the City of Detroit’s FY25 budget does allocate \$500,000 for the GOAL Line Program. GOAL line provides eligible students in Detroit with transportation and high-quality after-school programming such as swimming, cooking, and entrepreneurship programs. The GOAL line program was created by the City of Detroit in partnership with Detroit Public Schools, charter schools, teachers,

partners, and community leaders to improve educational opportunities for Detroit students.

DETROIT ECONOMIC GROWTH CORPORATION (DEGC)

Priority	# of comments
Economic development	1
Small business support	2

Economic development: The City of Detroit provides financial support to the operations of the DEGC, which provides real estate and business development services to assist with the attraction and expansion of job-creating and tax-generating industrial and commercial enterprises in the City.

Small business support: The City of Detroit’s proposed FY25 budget provides financial resources to the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation (DEGC) to support economic development services performed by 68 dedicated employees, including the District Business Liaisons (DBLs). DEGC’s small business services include direct small business support for site selection and expansion. DEGC’s DBLs assist businesses in navigating City processes and offer business retention services. The FY 25 budget also proposes funds for Motor City Match to help start new, permanent businesses and expand existing businesses in Detroit’s commercial corridors.

DETROIT AT WORK - DETROIT EMPLOYMENT SOLUTIONS CORPORATION

Priority	# of comments
Economic development	1
Economic equity	3
Job training & hiring	4

Economic equity: Detroit at Work (formerly the Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation (DESC) runs the Learn to Earn program, which contributes to economic equity. This accelerated program is designed to help Detroiters remove barriers stopping them from entering their chosen training or career. Detroiters can earn their diploma or GED while receiving a stipend and explore their options for training or new job opportunities immediately after graduating.

Job training & hiring/Economic development - Grow Detroit’s Young Talent: Grow Detroit’s Young Talent (GDYT) is a citywide summer jobs program that trains and employs over 8,000

young adults between the ages of 14 and 24 for up to 120 hours. This program is expected to continue with the support of city and federal funding in the FY25 budget, as well as philanthropic support. Detroit at Work also provides job training across in-demand occupations and in support of upskilling and obtaining a high school diploma or equivalent. Additionally, Detroit at Work seeks to continue to host job fairs across the city and last year held over 50 job fairs attended by over 11,000 people.

Job training & hiring/Economic development - DESC operations: The City of Detroit contributes financial support to Detroit at Work’s administrative staff who support workforce development programs such as the Skills for Life Program as well as job/scholarship fairs, job training programs, and scholarship funds. DESC is also implementing the City of Detroit’s Jumpstart program, an ARPA-funded initiative to help long-term unemployed residents get reengaged in the job market.

DETROIT HEALTH DEPARTMENT (DHD)

Priority	# of comments
Accessible health care	4
Environmental health	1
Food accessibility	2
Mental health response	2

Accessible health care: The Health Department (DHD) collaborates with federally qualified health centers, hospitals, and clinical groups to support equitable access to health care services. Public facing programs provides referral services for clients who are in need of health care services. The implementation of the electronic medical record system funded through the FY24 Budget strengthened the department’s ability to connect clients to health care services in real time, and the FY25 budget dedicates an additional \$75,000 to expand the department’s electronic medial record system capacity.

Environmental health: DHD maintains an Environmental Health and Food Safety division dedicated to ensuring establishments throughout the City are safe and in compliance with ordinances and laws via inspections. The FY25 Budget continues to provide funding to support these efforts.

Food accessibility: DHD has several public-facing programs that address food accessibility such as Maternal Child Health, HIV/STI, Behavioral Health, and Children’s Special Health Care Services by providing clients and families with referrals to food assistance programs. For example, WIC provides mothers with children assistance with the purchase of food items until the child is five years of age. The FY25 Budget continues to provide funding to support these public-facing programs.

Mental health response: DHD maintains a Behavioral Health division dedicated to addressing mental health needs in the City. The FY25 Budget continues to provide funding to support the programs within this division dedicated to mental health responsiveness.

DETROIT LAND BANK AUTHORITY (DLBA)

Priority	# of comments
Abandoned homes	3
Land Bank reform	3

Abandoned homes: Several residents expressed a desire for the City to do more to address abandoned homes throughout Detroit. The City has two strategies to deal with abandoned homes – rehabilitation and demolition – and DLBA helps facilitate the rehabilitation of abandoned homes throughout the city. DLBA provides ways for residents to purchase and renovate abandoned homes and purchase vacant lots and side lots through its auctions, the Own It Now program, and the Rehabbed & Ready program. An \$11 million contribution to DLBA is provided by the City’s General Fund and is included in the proposed FY25 budget.

Land Bank reform: The DLBA offers programs and presentations geared toward community engagement and education to expand access to DLBA opportunities including: DLBA community affairs which provides community events that connect Detroiters directly with DLBA staff in key areas of interest like home and land sales, maintenance, compliance, and more; open houses that offer potential buyers a chance to see upcoming auction properties in-person before placing a bid; monthly board meetings; and Building Blocks events that partner with neighborhood stakeholders to engage residents and attract potential buyers ahead of a new release of Auction and Own It Now property listings.

DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT (DPD)

Priority	# of comments
Cameras in neighborhoods	1
Enforce speeding	6
Illegal dumping	4
Neighborhood public safety	5
Police audit & reform	1
Police presence	3
Police responsiveness	1
Public safety	8

Cameras in neighborhoods: The Police Department sometimes installs cameras near illegal dumping sites to catch anyone dumping trash at those sites. Several residents expressed support for these cameras and a desire for the numbers of cameras to be expanded; the Police Department will continue its current operations of placing cameras at sites where illegal dumping regularly occurs, and these efforts are supported in the FY25 Budget.

Enforce speeding: Some residents stated that the Police Department should do more to enforce speed laws and prevent speeding. Through the police labor union contracts finalized in November 2022, the FY25 Budget provides increased funding for all police officers with the goal of increasing police retention, meaning more officer capacity for traffic enforcement. Traffic enforcement is one of five key areas of DPD's Community Safety Strategy.

Illegal dumping: The General Assignment Unit within the Major Crimes Division investigates matters related to illegal dumping. The FY25 budget provides sustained levels of funding for this unit to continue monitoring illegal dumping.

Police audit & reform: A few residents expressed desires or suggestions for how to reform the Detroit Police Department. The Police Department has a mindset of continuous improvement and welcomes opportunities to serve residents better. The Department's Community Safety Strategy outlines the ways in which the Police Department continues to keep citizens of Detroit safe. The FY25 Budget supports the efforts of continuous improvement of the Detroit Police Department.

Police presence: The Detroit Police Department has a key focus on police presence through the strategy of *deployment*, one of ten strategies of DPD's Community Safety Strategy. *Deployment* means "enhanced guardianship that focuses on more visible police presence and positive community interactions that are designed to mitigate opportunities for crime to occur."¹ The FY25 Budget continues to support DPD's efforts of *deployment* through increased funding for all police officers, negotiated as part of the police labor union contracts finalized in November 2022, with the goal of increasing police retention and, therefore, police presence. Since these labor contracts were signed, DPD has made significant gains in hiring and retention, which is reflected in the FY 2025 budget.

Police responsiveness: Several residents expressed a desire for the Detroit Police Department to be more responsive to resident complaints about crime in their neighborhood. The Detroit Police Department's strategy of *deployment*, within its Community Safety Strategy, is supported through the FY25 Budget through increased pay for all police officers, negotiated

¹ DPD Community Safety Strategy, p. 21,
<https://detroitmi.gov/sites/detroitmi.localhost/files/2022-03/DPD-community-safety-strategy.pdf>

as part of the police labor union contracts finalized in November 2022, with the goal of increasing police retention and, therefore, police presence. Since these labor contracts were signed, DPD has made significant gains in hiring and retention, which is reflected in the FY 2025 budget.

Public safety: Many residents expressed a desire for greater safety within the City of Detroit, with one envisioning a city of “safe days and safe nights, where crime and complaints are handled promptly.” This is in line with one of the goals of the Detroit Police Department, to “reduce crime throughout the city so residents can feely walk the streets without fear.” The FY25 Proposed Budget includes significant increases for DPD staffing and strategic initiatives in support of this goal.

DETROIT WATER AND SEWERAGE DEPARTMENT (DWSD)

Priority	# of comments
Drain clearing	2
Environmental health	1
Fire hydrant optimization	1
Flood reimbursement	1
Lead pipe replacement	1
Water & sewer infrastructure	6

Drain clearing: DWSD launched a Catch Basin Inspection and Cleaning Program in 2017 to reduce neighborhood street flooding. This program continues in the FY25 Budget. As of November 2020, DWSD crews had inspected and cleaned 30,000 catch basins (storm drains). There are approximately 90,000 catch basins that DWSD is responsible for maintaining. This did not include the basins on freeways, state or county roads, such as M-10 Lodge Freeway and Woodward Avenue, which are the responsibility of MDOT.

Environmental health: The FY25 Budget supports DWSD’s commitment to delivering clean water and the collection of sanitary sewage and stormwater from more than 230,000 accounts, representing a residential population of nearly 700,000.

Fire hydrant optimization: DWSD dedicates resources in the FY25 Budget to maintain a customer service line in which residents can report issues, including those related to fire hydrants. The phone number is (313) 267-8000.

Flood reimbursement: Many residents were affected by floods in the summer of 2021, and many have expressed the difficulty in recovering from these floods. The City understands the hardship caused by the flooding and offers support for flood reimbursement through

explanations of the following programs, which can be found on the City’s website: various options for flood assistance utilizing insurance, Small Business Administration (SBA), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and Detroit Water & Sewerage Department.

Lead pipe replacement: The water leaving the treatment plants that serve the City of Detroit does not contain lead, but lead can be released into drinking water from corrosion in lead service lines and household plumbing that contains lead. The water provided to DWSD customers contains a corrosion inhibitor to reduce corrosion of lead and other pipe materials into drinking water. Since 2018, DWSD has been working to verify and replace lead service lines as part of the Asset Management Program. Detroit citizens may be eligible for a full-service line replacement, if the service line is made of lead, at DWSD’s cost while the department is replacing the water main on a given citizen’s street.

Water & sewer infrastructure: DWSD provides an online tool to determine whether residents have a lead service line. DWSD is replacing lead service lines throughout Detroit on a first come, first served basis and citizens should add their homes to the lead service line replacement list. DWSD will replace the lead service line, with homeowner/occupant permission, when workers are on your block replacing the water main. If water main replacement is taking place in your neighborhood, you will be notified in advance of construction beginning. Stormwater improvement projects are also ongoing to mitigate flood damage. The FY25 Budget supports these efforts.

EASTERN MARKET

Priority	# of comments
Economic equity	3

Economic equity: Eastern Market provides retail and housing access to sustain a diverse portfolio of occupants and residents. This includes a legacy business retention fund to retain businesses displaced by rising rent, affordable housing development, support for BIPOC-owned businesses, and storefronts at below-market pricing. The City of Detroit provides recurring financial support for Eastern Market’s operations.

GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT (GSD)

Priority	# of comments
Alley cleanup	3
Beautification	7
Drain clearing	2
Eliminate blight	5

Food accessibility	2
Grass cutting	3
Less money to parks	1
Litter cleanup	2
Parks funding	10
Recreation	6
Recreational facilities improvements	5
Senior supports	10
Tree removal / trimming	6
Vacant lot cleanup	3
Youth programs	10
Urban agriculture	2

Alley cleanup: In FY 2024, GSD will conclude a multi-year neighborhood alley cleanup program with dedicated resources from the Blight Remediation Fund. In FY 2023 alone, GSD cleared 2,529 alleys, as reported in the Metrics and Data section of the GSD chapter in the FY25 budget book.

Beautification: GSD strives to make the City of Detroit a clean, safe, and vibrant place. In support of these goals, GSD has funding dedicated to vacant lot cutting, litter removal, blight removal/cleanouts, corridor/alley cleanup and graffiti removal.

Eliminate blight: There are various sources of blight remediation supported by the FY 2025 Budget: GSD’s Grounds Maintenance Division has funding dedicated to vacant lot cutting, litter removal, graffiti removal and dangerous tree removal. The Construction & Demolition Department operates an abandoned building board up program. GSD also maintains a webpage to report illegal dump sites.

Food accessibility: GSD’s Recreation Division utilizes grant funding to administer the Child and Adult Care Food Program. This program provides a free, nutritious supper for children 18 and under who participate in after-school programs at the recreation centers. Additionally, the Detroit Area Agency on Aging, Area 1B provides frozen meals for seniors 60 and up on Wednesdays. Finally, the Northwest Activities Center distributes groceries every other Monday from 2:00pm to 4:00pm.

Grass cutting: The City of Detroit cuts 100,000 lots 5 times a year to make sure that Detroit neighborhoods are safe.

Less money to parks: The Parks and Recreation Department does strive to improve the quality of life for all Detroiters through parks, greenways, recreation centers, and programs using an equity framework.

Litter cleanup: GSD's Grounds Maintenance Division has funding dedicated to vacant lot cutting and litter removal, and the Construction & Demolition Department operates an abandoned building board up program and demolishes abandoned/blighted residential and commercial properties. The proposed FY 2025 budget supports these activities.

Parks funding: The FY 2025 budget includes \$22.2 million in parks and public space management, including Landscape Design, Park Development, Grounds Maintenance, Floriculture, and support for the Unified Greenway Partnership. The FY 2025 will also include capital expenditures for parks and recreation facilities.

Recreation: GSD's Recreation Division operates 13 recreation centers throughout the City and provides recreation programs and activities at these centers, Spirit Plaza, and Hart Plaza. Over 30 leisure sites – from historic cemeteries, historic Fort Wayne, and Eastern Market to the new riverwalk and velodrome – are operated by third-party partners under Recreation staff oversight and management. The Division is in the middle of reorganizing and improving the quantity and quality of opportunities it offers. The FY 2025 operating budget includes \$14.6 million in funding for Recreation, plus an additional \$1 million in expected recreation grants.

Recreational facilities improvements: The City of Detroit is spending \$45 million to renovate, expand and reopen recreation centers in the city in what may be the largest period of investment in these facilities in decades. The spending includes \$30 million from the city's share of American Rescue Plan Act funds, \$10 million in city bond funds, and \$5 million from Roger Penske.

Senior supports: There are numerous programs supported by GSD and its Recreation Division that are available to City of Detroit seniors including, but not limited to, senior technology classes, basketball, pickleball, boxing, chess, crafting, and senior walking.

Tree removal/trimming: GSD has dedicated funding for removal and trimming of dangerous trees on the City rights of way.

Vacant lot cleanup: GSD's Grounds Maintenance Division has funding dedicated to vacant lot cutting and litter removal, and the Construction & Demolition Department operates an abandoned building board up program. The FY 2025 Budget supports these efforts.

Youth programs: The proposed FY 2025 budget includes funding for GSD's Recreation Division, which provides recreation and leisure activities for all who live, work and play in Metro Detroit. With 309 parks and 11 recreation centers, Recreation connects communities with parks, programs, and facilities to positively impact their health and wellness. Numerous

recreation programs are targeted towards the city’s youth population through summer employment opportunities as well.

Urban agriculture: The FY 2025 budget includes funding for the Director of Urban Agriculture and Sustainability. Among other duties, this position is a liaison to the urban farming community and helps shape city policy regarding urban farming.

HOUSING AND REVITALIZATION DEPARTMENT (HRD)

Priority	# of comments
Abandoned homes	3
Affordable housing	10
Environmental health	1
Expanded affordable housing	3
Expanded home repair	2
Home repair	11
Immigrant supports	1
Neighborhood rebuilding	10
Senior supports	10

Abandoned homes: The Detroit Land Bank owns vacant residential properties, including homes, side lots and vacant land that may be developed. For more information on the Detroit Land Bank, please visit buildingdetroit.org.

Affordable housing: HRD coordinates the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding, a substantial portion of which goes to support affordable housing. The proposed FY25 budget allocates the City’s estimated CDBG award.

Environmental health: The City was awarded \$95 million from HUD to respond to the 2021 presidentially declared disaster related to the June 25-26 flood event. Of that, the City of Detroit will allocate at least 80 percent of the funds to address unmet needs with HUD-identified “most impacted and distressed” areas. Currently, \$43 million is being allocated to improve residential private sewer lateral lines to prevent basement flooding.

Expanded affordable housing: The City is working to advance the construction of new affordable housing developments. Approximately 750 units of new affordable housing are expected to begin construction by July 2024. These developments will include housing

priced at a range of options including extremely low and very low-income households. Housing is defined by HUD as being affordable when a household pays no more than 30% of their total income on housing (rent, water, gas/electric) costs. Affordable housing has been and is being developed for persons with incomes between 0% to 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI). Housing for households with incomes between 0-30% of AMI are often served with rental assistance. Rental assistance is provided by the federal government.

Expanded home repair: The Renew Detroit Program was expanded to \$45 million inclusive of \$15 million from the State of Michigan. Phase 2 allows for window and/or roof replacements.

Home repair: The FY25 Budget includes \$8 million in new grant funding for senior emergency and conventional home repair and LeadSafe programs. Additionally, HRD has over \$100 million in available grant funding balances, including American Rescue Plan (ARPA) funding and other federal grants. These programs include Renew Detroit, Senior Home Repair, LeadSafe, Healthy Homes, and CDBG-DR Basement Protection.

Immigrant supports: HRD’s Office of Immigration Affairs (OIA) helps immigrants integrate into the community and promotes economic development within immigrant communities across Detroit by creating programs and ensuring access to resources and programs.

Neighborhood rebuilding: HRD received a \$30 Million Federal Choice Neighborhoods Grant and a \$5 Million Supplemental Choice Neighborhoods Grant for Affordable Housing within distressed areas.

Senior supports: HRD continues to support the development and preservation of affordable housing units for seniors.

LAW DEPARTMENT

Priority	# of comments
Returning citizen supports	1

Returning citizen supports: Project Clean Slate is a prime example of how the Returning Citizens Task Force provides services and opportunities to Detroit Residents. Project Clean Slate works with citizens to provide Legal Assistance and Expungements. The FY 2025 budget includes \$1.6 million in support of Project Clean Slate in the “Non-Departmental” department.

LIBRARY

Priority	# of comments
Libraries	4

Libraries: Detroit Public Library’s (DPL) FY25 budget provides a full range of library programs and services at 20 branch locations. This includes DPL’s enrichment programs, such as Children’s Library Services and the Technology, Literacy & Career Center (TIP), as well as DPL’s library collections composed of four departments in the Main Library: Circulation; Business, Science & Technology (BST) and Social Science, Education & Religion (SSER); Special Collections; and Music, Art & Literature (MAL).

MAYOR’S OFFICE

Priority	# of comments
Better schools	4
Citizen education programs	3
Community engagement	2
Community group funding	3
Economic development	1
Economic equity	3
Effective city services	5
Government responsiveness	4
Immigrant supports	1
Job training & hiring	4
Neighborhood rebuilding	10
Retiree supports	2
Returning citizen supports	1
Youth programs	10
Financial training	1

Better schools: While the City supports a number of adult educational programs (see programs listed under DESC) and youth programs (see responses to “Youth Programs” below and under GSD) it does not oversee funding, programming or operations for the Detroit Public Schools Community District.

Citizen education programs: The Department of Neighborhoods (DONs) within the Mayor’s Office works to help residents get the information they need for City initiatives and programs. The DONs holds a weekly meeting to educate residents on important happenings in the city. The FY25 Budget continues to support these important efforts of the DONs representatives.

Community engagement: The Mayor's Office cares deeply about the priorities of Detroit residents and listens to residents to inform its programs and initiatives. One of the aims of the Department of Neighborhoods (DONs) within the Mayor's Office is to be the liaison between the City government and residents and to provide a channel to consolidate community engagement efforts across the City. The DONs hosts a city-wide meeting every Monday, called the weekly DONcast, and the DONs Manager for each district holds a meeting in their district once a month. Finally, the Mayor holds a community meeting in each district at least once a year.

Community group funding: Neighborhoods are key to the vibrancy of Detroit. The Mayor's Office recognizes the many community groups, block clubs, and neighborhood organizations throughout the city that organize community members, take care of their blocks, and beautify their neighborhoods. The Neighborhood Beautification Fund provides grants for these groups to further improve their corner of the city.

Economic development: The City is continuously working to enhance economic development through its departments, programs and partnerships including, but not limited to: Civil Rights, Inclusion & Opportunity (CRIO), Planning & Development Department (PDD) and the Downtown Development Authority.

Economic equity: The City's vision of Opportunity Rising is one of economic equity and opportunity for all Detroiters. Various City departments programmatically make efforts toward economic equity for Detroit shareholders including residents, employees and business owners. Some of the City's efforts include increasing the hourly minimum wage for City employees to \$15, effective July 2022.

Effective city services: The Mayor's Office supports the provision of effective city services by listening to feedback from residents and addressing constituent concerns. The channels by which residents can report issues include their DONs representative and the Improve Detroit app. The Mayor's Office, along with all City departments, understands the importance of being responsive to residents. The FY25 budget continues funding for the crucial efforts of the DONs representatives and Improve Detroit app to respond to resident concerns and to ensure that the city government works well for Detroiters.

Government responsiveness: One of the aims of the DONs within the Mayor's Office is to be the first line of responsive communication between residents and the City of Detroit government. Each of the seven districts in the city has a Manager and Deputy Manager to represent the district in the Department of Neighborhoods and connect residents to the resources they need. In addition, the City of Detroit runs the Improve Detroit app to respond to resident-reported issues.

Job training & hiring: The City through its departments and various partnerships is continuously working on training & hiring for its residents, such as its partnership with Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation (DESC) and Grow Detroit’s Young Talent.

Neighborhood rebuilding: The Mayor’s Office is committed to affordable housing and neighborhood beautification. Some examples of this include the seven-point \$203 million affordable housing plan, the Bridging Neighborhoods Program, and the renovation of Roosevelt Park.

Youth programs: The Mayor’s Office partners with DESC, which is the lead agency for Grow Detroit’s Young Talent, a program providing job opportunities for youth in the City.

Financial training: The Department of Neighborhoods within the Mayor’s Office is a partner in the Financial Empowerment Center, which offers professional, one-on-one financial counseling as a free public service to enable residents to address their financial challenges, needs, and plan for their futures.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER (OCFO)

Priority	# of comments
Community involvement in budget	2
Retiree supports	2
Tax fairness	4
Transparency in budget	5

Community involvement in budget: The Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) dedicates some of its FY25 staffing capacity within the Office of Budget to conduct outreach around the budget. This includes holding District Budget Priorities Forums, where residents can attend and share what they’d like to see prioritized in the budget. One of the goals of this report is to reflect how the community input from public meetings is reflected in the budget.

Retiree supports: The FY 2025 budget includes \$179.9 million to meet the legacy pension obligations, including \$10 million of one-time funding for supplemental retirement checks, and \$20 million to accommodate an accelerated pension fund payment schedule. This accelerated schedule provides additional stability to our pension funds currently paying out retiree benefits.

Tax fairness: OCFO has staffing capacity and other resources within the Office of the Treasury and Office of the Assessor to conduct work around tax fairness. The Homeowners Property Exemption (HOPE) Program allows eligible residents to enroll in Pay as You Stay

(PAYS), which reduces delinquent property taxes owed to the Wayne County Treasurer. In addition, the Detroit Tax Relief Fund is a new assistance program that completely eliminate delinquent property taxes owed to the Wayne County Treasurer’s Office for Detroit homeowners who have received the Homeowners Property Exemption (HOPE) and the Pay as You Stay (PAYS).

Transparency in budget: OCFO dedicates some of its FY25 staffing capacity within the Office of Budget to conduct outreach around the budget. This includes holding Annual Public Budget Meetings to inform residents on how the budget process works and share key budget highlights of several major departments. OCFO also dedicates some of its administrative staffing capacity and resources to generate educational one-pagers around key budget facts and highlights to aid in resident understanding of how the budget works.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Priority	# of comments
Citywide improvements	2
Green infrastructure	3
Neighborhood rebuilding	10
Safer street design	8
Sustainability & resilience	3

Citywide improvements: The Planning and Development Department (PDD) plays a primary role in identifying and planning regional and neighborhood improvement projects. These projects are drawn from the work and community engagement of more than 20 underway or completed Neighborhood Planning Studies over the past seven years. PDD plays a supporting role in citywide improvements as identified by other departments, such as upgrades to traffic signals and other city-owned infrastructure. Additionally, PDD recommends improvements to projects proposed by private developers and investors for specific businesses (i.e., grocery, retail) or locations. PDD also leads planning for three citywide improvement projects. These are planning studies for neighborhoods along the Joe Louis Greenway, setting design standards and guidelines for commercial corridors, and updating the City’s Master Plan consistent with ongoing community engagement.

Green infrastructure: PDD includes planning for green infrastructure in its Neighborhood Planning studies to stabilize and enhance property values and neighborhoods and support natural stormwater drainage. PDD also provides green infrastructure guidance in its citywide planning for Joe Louis Greenway neighborhoods, commercial corridors, and Master Plan guidelines. PDD may offer green infrastructure guidance as a part of its design reviews

for private development, to ensure residential areas are adequately screened and protected from nearby traffic, industrial, and commercial land uses.

Neighborhood rebuilding: Neighborhood rebuilding claims the primary portion of PDD’s budget expenditures and staff resources. PDD has completed 15 Neighborhood Planning Studies, which have guided \$52 million in additional City spending for streetscapes and parks and attracted \$169 million in investment for commercial and residential development and greenspace. In addition, the Greater Corktown Plan helped the City win a \$30 million federal Choice Neighborhoods grant for affordable housing. PDD also manages the City’s Community Benefits Ordinance process, ensuring that communities impacted by major development have a voice in how that investment benefits their communities. The proposed FY25 budget provides funding to continue PDD’s neighborhood rebuilding and transformation efforts.

Safer street design: PDD partners with the Department of Public Works in streetscape improvements, identifying and planning increased options for safe walking, biking and mass transit, as identified through PDD’s Neighborhood Planning Studies.

Sustainability & resilience: PDD routinely consults with its land use planning contractors, and with the City’s Office of Sustainability, on best planning practices for enhancing sustainability and resiliency in the department’s neighborhood and citywide planning projects. Project examples include planning studies and stormwater management projects underway or planned in the Jefferson Chalmers, Corktown, and related neighborhoods. PDD is also partnering with other departments and local nonprofits to increase the city’s tree canopy as a means of heat and pollution mitigation in addition to making city streets more attractive.

PUBLIC LIGHTING DEPARTMENT / PUBLIC LIGHTING AUTHORITY (PLD/PLA)

Priority	# of comments
Streetlights	3

Streetlights: The Public Lighting Authority dedicates resources to switching over streetlights from the old high-pressure sodium lights to new, state-of-the-art Light-Emitting Diode (LED) lights to improve illumination and energy efficiency. The new lights are twice as bright as the old lights while also being more energy efficient, saving Detroit taxpayers money. The FY25 budget includes a \$1 million increase to the City subsidy for the Public Lighting Authority.

Appendices

APPENDIX A: OFFICIAL NOTICE OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Annual Public Budget MEETINGS

Annual Public Budget Meeting Part 1

SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 • 5 p.m.

CITY SERVICE DEPARTMENTS

Departments (presenting in this order)

- General Services Department (GSD)**
- Department of Public Works (DPW)**
- Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD)**

This meeting is virtual during the regular
Department of Neighborhoods Monday meetings

JOIN VIA ZOOM:

<https://cityofdetroit.zoom.us/j/85997730698>

JOIN VIA PHONE: (312) 626-6799

Meeting ID: **859 9773 0698**



Budget Priorities Forums for

CITY COUNCIL DISTRICTS



Participate in one of seven forums to learn more about and provide input on the **Mayor's Recommended Budget for FY2025**. One will be hosted for each City Council District.

DISTRICT 2	OCTOBER 10 6 p.m.	VIRTUAL Visit https://join.zoom.us or call (312) 626-6799 Meeting ID: 858 9056 5831 Passcode: 222222	
DISTRICT 5	OCTOBER 18 6 p.m.	VIRTUAL Visit https://join.zoom.us or call (312) 626-6799 Meeting ID: 880 936 0013	
DISTRICT 6	OCTOBER 19 5 p.m.	VIRTUAL Visit https://join.zoom.us or call (312) 626-6799 Meeting ID: 363 140 9738	
DISTRICT 4	OCTOBER 24 5 p.m.	VIRTUAL Visit https://join.zoom.us or call (312) 626-6799 Meeting ID: 895 3201 1115	
DISTRICT 3	OCTOBER 24 6 p.m.	VIRTUAL Visit https://join.zoom.us or call (312) 626-6799 Meeting ID: 939 478 94155	
DISTRICT 7	OCTOBER 25 5 p.m.	VIRTUAL Visit https://join.zoom.us or call (312) 626-6799 Meeting ID: 892 839 28278	
DISTRICT 1	OCTOBER 26 5:30 p.m.	IN-PERSON CrowellActivity Center 16630 Lahser Rd, 48219	VIRTUAL Visit https://join.zoom.us or call (312) 626-6799 Meeting ID: 891 7702 5701

APPENDIX B: OFFICE OF BUDGET PRESENTATION SLIDES

The presentation from the Annual Public Budget Meeting Part 1 can be found at: [Annual Public Budget Meeting Part 1 \(detroitmi.gov\)](https://www.detroitmi.gov/annual-public-budget-meeting-part-1)

The presentation from the Annual Public Budget Meeting Part 2 can be found at: [Annual Public Budget Meeting Part 2 \(detroitmi.gov\)](#)

The presentation from the District Budget Priorities Forums can be found at [detroitmi.gov/budget](#)

APPENDIX C: COMMENT DATABASE

Please visit [detroitmi.gov/budget](#) and navigate to the Your Budget page under Resources to view the complete log of comments from the Budget Community Meetings and Your Budget inbox. This log can be found under the Documents section of the Your Budget page.