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**TO:** The Honorable Detroit City Council

**FROM:** David Whitaker, Director  
Legislative Policy Division Staff

**DATE:** July 12, 2021

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

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

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

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

**By Council President Pro Tem Mary Sheffield**

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

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

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

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

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