

DETROIT CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
PROPOSAL/ISSUE REVIEW SUMMARY

ISSUE NUMBER: GDS 76

ISSUE CATEGORY: Government Department & Services

SOURCE: Patty Fedewa, Bd. Member,
Transportation Riders United, Letter,
12/17/10

RELATED CHARTER SECTIONS: §8-203 (Annual Budget)

RELEVANT ORDINANCE SECTION:

RELEVANT LAW(S):

ISSUE/PROPOSAL STATEMENT: Add Transportation department to departments required to hold public meetings to review their programs, services and activities prior to submitting their proposed annual operating budget.

Sec 8-203 Annual Budget (middle paragraph)

Before November 1 of each year and prior to submitting a proposed annual operating budget, the departments of police, fire, public works, water and sewerage, recreation, health, public lighting and **transportation** shall conduct a public meeting to review programs, services and activities to be included in the budget and receive public comment.

The City's pricing policies regarding fares and other charges for the Department of Transportation's services shall not be designed to recover all of the Department of Transportation's costs.

RATIONALE: "With respect to the City's master plan, transportation is core issue that must be accounted for in all city plans. It is frequently neglected or viewed only through the lens of automotive transportation.

"The added language provides a basis for no longer viewing DDOT as an enterprise department pursuant to GASB No. 34, paragraph 67. The enterprise classification places an expectation on DDOT that is impossible to meet. Transit systems across the country and across the world require government investment to operate. The concept of the self-funded transit system is a myth that creates an unrealistic expectation for DDOT. Transportation systems whether they are roads, airports or rail lines require government investment to exist. The classification also prevents the City from obtaining residents' input regarding how much to budget for DDOT, because the budget department starts from the premise that DDOT is self-funded. This misdesignation needs to be corrected."- *Transportation Riders United, Letter, dated December 17, 2010.*

ANALYSIS:

DISPOSITION/COMMISSION ACTION:

NOTES: