



RACIAL EQUITY

A MISSING STRATEGY FROM DETROIT'S REVITALIZATION EFFORT

DETROIT People's PLATFORM NEWS

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THERE ARE 2 DETROITS!

This **Detroit People's Platform NEWS** documents our work in Affordable Housing, Transit and Equitable Development. While each of these issue areas present unique challenges, structural racism are foundational to all three. The disparity between the neighborhoods and the 7.2 mile Downtown/Midtown area, branded as "Greater Downtown", is largely based upon creating opportunity for some while blocking access to basic needs for others. **While the media spins myths of "One Detroit" our work intends to spin it back around to reality; there ARE 2 Detroit.**

Until we create, empower and enforce policies that intentionally address the harsh lines of difference that plague Detroit's redevelopment the divide will continue to increase.

DISPLACEMENT

A LOOMING REALITY FOR MANY DETROITERS

Affordable housing is typically defined as 80 percent of the average income of the region, or the median family income. It helps to look at the numbers to illustrate the problem.

The average household income of the metro Detroit region is \$68,000 for a family of four. The average household income in Detroit is \$25,764.

The administration's informal policy and Council Member Mary Sheffield's recently proposed ordinance promotes "the development of residential

housing projects in which at least 20% of the total units are reserved for households with incomes as follows: 10% units for 80% or less of Area Median Income (AMI); 5% units for 60% or less of AMI; and 5% units for 50% or less of AMI." 80% of the regional average median income is \$54,900 — an income two times higher than the average Detroit household income.

This policy is not solving the affordable housing crisis and mitigating housing instability. Families earning less than \$25,764 (30 percent AMI) per year make up the largest demographic in Detroit, and about two out of every

three families in Detroit earn less than 80 percent AMI. In other words, all of the newly developed affordable housing built in Detroit isn't actually affordable to most Detroiters.

To offset Displacement Detroiters need a comprehensive housing plan that includes:

Housing Affordability at 30% Housing Trust Fund Inclusionary Housing

WATER FOUNTAINS



WATER SHUT-OFFS

There ARE 2 Detroit

The People's Platform support We the People of Detroit and The People's Water Board **DETROIT People's PLATFORM** For water Shut-Off info/assist: wethepeopleofdetroit.com peopleswaterboard.org

The 7.2 mile "Greater Downtown" area is sucking up all of the resources and pouring what they don't use down the drain. During 2017 it is estimated 18,000+ households will have their water shut off. (27,000 in 2016) The United Nations has recognized this humanitarian/public health crisis.

TRANSIT UPDATE

The Qline is a \$187 million dollar Project. We call it the Why?Line.

- **Why spend all the money on a project that serves a select few?**
- **Why isn’t there a community benefits agreement?**
- **Why do the funders continue to mislead us about the project’s role in real regional transit?**

The numbers tell a stark story: roughly more than 100,000 riders per day rely on DDOT (Detroit Department of Transportation system) even though it is in dire need of more buses, mechanics, and drivers to keep those buses going.


There is no acknowledgment of the feelings of racial injustice the Qline invokes. That injustice comes from spending enormous amounts of money on transportation that

serves a fraction of the city that happens to be one of the whitest and most affluent, while the system that serves more than a half million mostly black and brown residents is virtually ignored.

While more than three miles of a slow, expensive trolley could never attract and keep auto-averse millennials, a bus rapid transit system and support for regional transit could. The people who have stuck with Detroit through thick and thin and who rely on public transportation for commuting to school, work and medical appointments should be supported as they continue to live, work and spend money in Detroit. It’s is time to move, literally and figuratively, beyond the barriers of race and class toward a transportation system that benefits all.

Equitable Development Coalition to the NBA: Pistons Deal Short Changes Detroiters!

Many Detroiters are excited about the return of the Pistons but question the use of public money to fund the project. Though the project has already been voted on and approved by Detroit City Council the Equitable Detroit Coalition came together to write a letter directly to the NBA Commissioner urging the Board of Governors to vote NO on the proposal.



July 20, 2017
Adam Silver, Commissioner
National Basketball Association (NBA) Commission
Olympic Tower, 645 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10022 US

Dear Commissioner Silver,

Equitable Detroit is a community based coalition of 32 organizations representing a diverse group of Detroit residents, activist, artist and civic leaders. In the 2016 November election, coalition members worked to garner nearly 100,000 votes in support of a strong community benefit agreement ordinance. We are writing to express our lack of support for the proposed Pistons relocation deal to Detroit. We urge the Board of Governors to vote NO on the proposal.

There are a number of concerning issues regarding public notice, execution of the community engagement process, and public financing. There are also questions about proper notification to impacted entities such as the local school district, library commission, as well as the public at large. Further, the voluntary, yet unsuccessful community benefit and community engagement process between the Pistons organization and neighborhood residents resulted in no net gains for Detroit residents beyond what had been previously agreed upon between Piston officials and the city administration. The agreement pales in comparison to similarly negotiated community benefit agreements across the nation.

As you may know, Detroit went through very challenging times under the state appointed Emergency Manager and the federal bankruptcy therefore it is critical that there is transparency at all levels of government and in all government processes. Detroiters want to see public investment i.e. tax abatements and incentives support development that contribute to the public good and our common wealth i.e. public schools, infrastructure improvements and good jobs.

Detroiters welcome the Pistons move back to the city, however not at the cost of Detroit families and citizens who deserve to benefit from responsive government and process when public dollars are involved. Actions have begun to advance a ballot measure to repeal the Detroit City Council’s decision to provide a tax break of \$34.5 million to the Pistons. We respectfully urge that the NBA Commissioner in your role as chief executive, review these concerns and provide guidance as this issue moves forward.

Thank you for the consideration.
Equitable Detroit Coalition

This is one of the worst agreements ever negotiated and it isn’t even legally binding. All Detroiters are getting are tickets, basketball courts and a \$50K scholarship between Flint and Detroit. \$50K won’t even cover the cost of 2 years at a public university for one student. There are no guarantees for small Detroit based business owners; no guaranteed jobs for Detroiters; and no ongoing support to maintain the mandated basketball courts - that cost falls on Detroiters.

**Detroiters
Deserve
More!**

WHY DOES THE Q-LINE EXCLUDE MOST DETROITERS?

- A. White Supremacy/Racism/Classism
- B. Elected Officials Without Accountability
- C. Profits Over People/Privatization
- D. All of the Above

WHY? Q-LINE DETROIT

#WhyLine #DetroitPeoples

Q-LINE STOPS



D-DOT BUS STOPS

There ARE 2 Detroit

Detroit People's Platform advocate for equitable transit that benefits all Detroiters
DETROIT People's PLATFORM
Join our Transit Justice Team transit@detroitpeoplesplatform.org Hotline: 313.338.9396



KEEP WOODWARD ON WOODWARD

We’re fighting to keep the Woodward #53 from being permanently rerouted off Woodward.

Detroiters need DIRECT access to jobs, services, and other important venues in downtown. Don’t shut Detroiters out of our downtown! Join our transit justice movement and sign the petition to restore the Woodward #53 through downtown Detroit.

Sign the Petition!
<http://bit.ly/2oBeThD>

SAVE THE DATE and MAKE A PLAN TO

VOTE

PRIMARY ELECTION Tuesday Aug. 8th

GENERAL ELECTION Tuesday Nov. 7th

1. Know your district
2. Attend candidate forums
3. Demand accountability from elected officials

2017