

Spring 2014

Your partner in Detroit's resurgence

Dear Neighbor,

I am honored and thankful for the privilege to serve you and the other residents of District 7, and be one of the inaugural seven Detroit City Council members who represent Detroiters in the new seven district format.

I chair the Council's Planning and Economic Development Committee, which oversees licensing, zoning and land use matters. And, I represent the City of Detroit as a board member of the Eastern Market Corporation and TechTown.

Like many Detroiters, I too am frustrated by the pothole-littered streets that were caused by a hard winter and the conditions of our streets and roads. Most Detroiters cannot afford to have a damaged rim, blown tire, or damaged tie rods or shocks. In March, state legislators approved a \$215 million fund for statewide road repairs. I am working with the Duggan Administration, Wayne County officials and state legislators to help obtain funding for road repairs in our city.

In February, we approved new contracts for trash collection. This will improve service reliability, institute weekly curbside recycling for the first time citywide, and provide twice monthly bulk pick-up. In addition, trash will be collected on vacant lots. Once the recycling launch dates are confirmed, I will work with neighborhoods in District 7 to inform residents. The new agreements also include the purchase/lease of garbage trucks that use Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), which will reduce fumes and noise in our neighborhoods during trash collection.

Even though it's been a hard winter, my staff joined the community to board-up vacant homes around Cody High School. Now that spring is here, we will participate in more projects to clean up areas of District 7 and other parts of our city.

I began a Literacy Initiative in February. I will participate in reading programs at schools and with other groups in the district. Flip open this newsletter to read more about this initiative and other topics important to our community.

As always, I am committed to serving you. If you have any issues or concerns, please contact me at the City Council Office at 313-224-2151, my home at 313-653-1131, or by email at lelandg@detroitmi.gov.

Respectfully,



Gabe Leland
Detroit City Council - District 7



Jobs and Economic Development

As Chair of the Detroit City Council Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee, I commit to seek out and secure the platforms that create jobs in District 7 and across our city. I will monitor the progress of companies that agree to hire and train Detroiters as part of development agreements within the city.

We created a starting point for community benefits and job opportunities for economic development with the Detroit Red Wings catalyst project – the largest economic development project for Detroit in the past several decades. The new hockey arena and ancillary entertainment, housing and retail projects will provide the best case scenario for development in that area of the city – finally connecting midtown to downtown – that brings jobs for Detroiters.

I will monitor the commitment made by Olympia Development of Michigan to hire Detroiters for many of the construction and permanent jobs. A key component was an agreement for a Neighborhood Advisory Council that will be a voice for the community as the project moves forward. Detroit City Council will appoint 25% of the 12-16 members who will serve on this committee. The composition of the Neighborhood Advisory Council will include a diverse group of individuals who possess a wide range of experience and background that will be called upon to provide input throughout the life of the project.



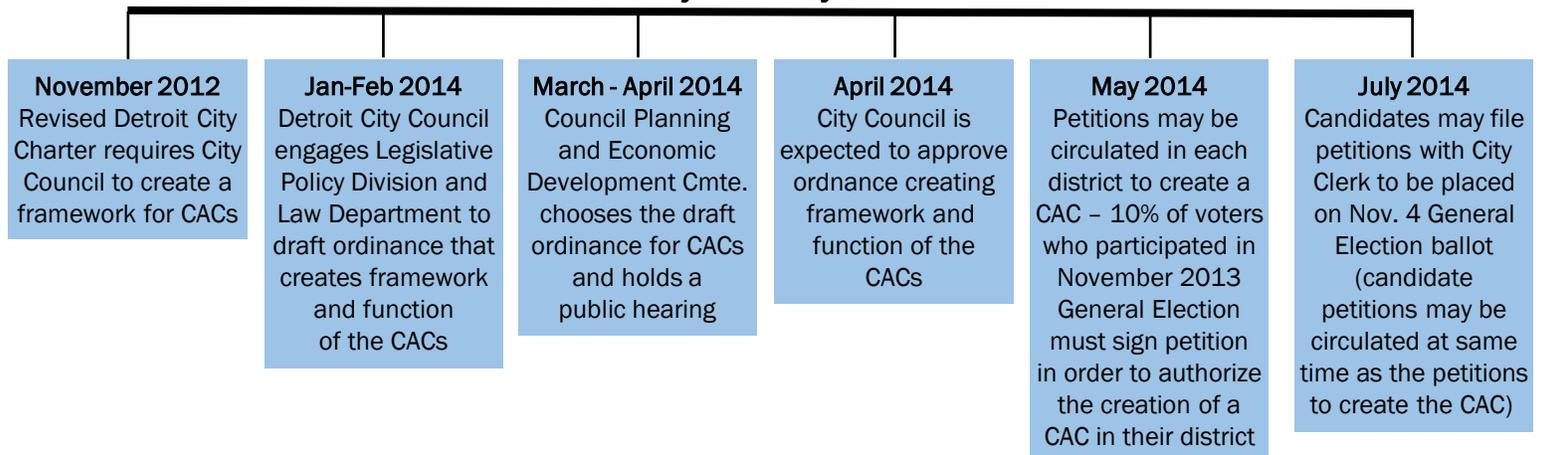
Business Improvement Zone, or BIZ, was unanimously approved by Detroit City Council in March for the Central Business District downtown. This will not raise taxes in District 7. The BIZ continues the effective Clean Downtown program that began when Super Bowl XL was in Detroit in 2006, and will assist with public safety and streetscape improvements. The BIZ model has been used successfully in vibrant cities such as Toronto. This model could possibly be used for other parts of the city – including District 7 – to improve the environment to operate businesses within our neighborhoods.

Community Advisory Councils: Your opportunity to serve District 7

Each Council District will have the option to establish a Community Advisory Council (CAC), connecting the district even more to city government, once we at Detroit City Council approve an ordinance to create the CACs.

I want to inform all District 7 residents on this process to ensure the success of a CAC in our district, and educate those who want to serve on the CAC. A fact sheet on www.gabeleland.com includes many frequently asked questions.

Timeline: Creation of Community Advisory Councils and Candidate Election



Detroit Councilman Gabe Leland

City of Detroit, 2 Woodward Ave, Suite 1340, Detroit, MI 48226

Literacy Initiative Launches: Together we will decrease the economic inequality gap

Illiteracy is a major contributor to the economic inequality gap. It limits our potential. We launched the Literacy Initiative because I believe every Detroiter has great potential for success in life. Limited reading skills should not be a roadblock.

Our Literacy Initiative partners with schools, parent organizations, and community groups to provide encouragement and support. We appreciate the Detroit Public Library Friends Foundation and the Chrysler Foundation for their support. We congratulate the Detroit Public Library on its 150th anniversary.

When I was a kid, my favorite book was 'Cat in the Hat', which made reading fun. Reading continues to be fun today. I always want to learn and excel. And, I go to schools to share my experiences in order to influence children to do the same.



In the District

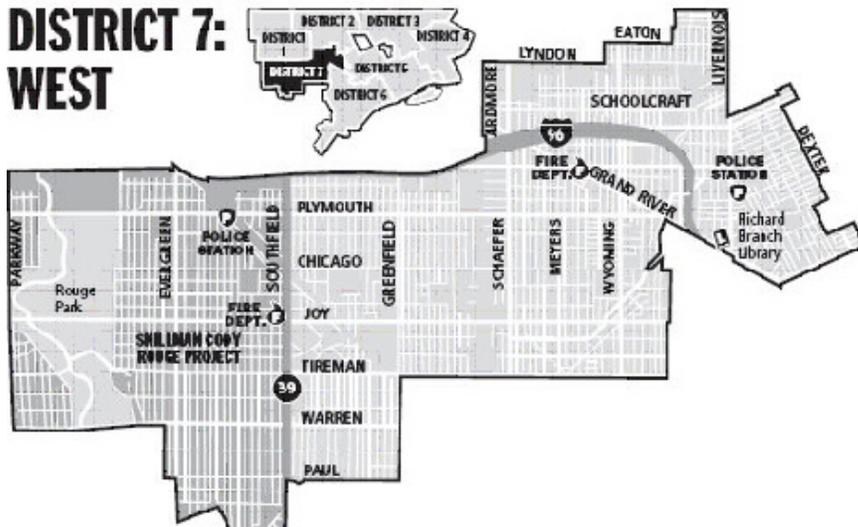
My priority during this first term as your district councilmember, is to work with you, other members of the community and organizations to make our neighborhoods cleaner, safer and stronger.

Currently, I am looking into how we create jobs through the demolition and reuse of vacant properties in our community. I support a material reuse program that recycles items from soon-to-be demolished houses and other structures.

My office will continue to partner with neighborhood groups for clean-up and blight removal initiatives in District 7 and across this city.

I hosted my first District 7 Chat. Residents were invited to share their neighborhood issues and bring their neighbors. I appreciate the support of McDonald's at 9815 Grand River Ave. for hosting and providing coffee.

Visit my website at www.gabeleland.com for future District 7 Chats or call my office at 313-224-2151.



Detroit City Council Meetings*

Public Health and Safety Standing Committee

Every Monday 10 a.m.

Detroit City Council Formal Session

Every Tuesday at 10 a.m.

Internal Operations Standing Committee

Every Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Budget, Finance and Audit Standing Committee

Every Wednesday at 1 p.m.

Member: Councilman Gabe Leland

Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee

Every Thursday at 10 a.m.

Chair: Councilman Gabe Leland

Neighborhood & Community Services Standing Committee

Every Thursday at 1 p.m.

City Council Evening Community Meeting

Every third Tuesday of the month

7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

*Meetings are held on the 13th Floor of the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, except for Council's Evening Community Meetings which are at different locations each month. The indicated meeting days and times do not apply on holidays and during council recess.

Watch Detroit City Council sessions on Comcast Channel 10.

Office: 313-224-2151

Home: 313-653-1131

gabeleland.com



Sign-up for our e-newsletter, which provides updates about District 7 and across our city. Send your full name and email address to gabe@gabeleland.com.

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Detroit, MI 48226

Important Phone Numbers

Emergency Calls: 911

Councilman Gabe Leland
313-224-2151

Detroit City Council Main Office
313-224-3443

Office of Mayor Mike Duggan
313-224-3400

Detroit Police Department
Northwestern District non-emergency
313-596-5600

Detroit Fire Department
Non-emergency
313-596-2900

Detroit Water & Sewerage Department
313-267-8000

Broken Water Mains
313-267-7401

Department of Public Works
313-224-3901

Broken Street Lights
313-267-8140

Pot Holes
313-224-0033

General Services
313-628-0900

City Income Tax
313-224-3315

City Property Tax
313-224-3560

Wayne County Treasurer
313-224-5990

Wayne County Commissioner
Alisha Bell's Office
313-224-0936

United Way Help Line
211

DTE Energy
800-477-4747