GROUND RULES FOR DISCUSSION

1. Treat other members of the discussion with respect.
3. Don’t try to dominate the discussion. Invite and welcome other points of view.
4. Listen carefully and try to understand other viewpoints.
5. Stay on topic and limit side conversations.
6. Turn cellphones off or to vibrate so as not to interrupt the discussion.
7. Be mindful of how much time is left to complete the exercise.

For more information about the candidates, check out CitizenDetroit’s YouTube page for 5-minute candidate videos for every office - Mayor, City Council, City Clerk, and Police Commission.

tinyurl.com/citizendetroit

These videos are not an endorsement of any candidate.
Vote November 7, 2017 in the city of Detroit Municipal General Election.

2017 GENERAL ELECTION CANDIDATE FORUM
October 19, 2017
DINNER
WELCOME
Dr. Irvin D. Reid & Sheila Cockrel
OPENING CLICKERS
PRE-FORUM ACTIVITY
Sizing Up Candidate Speech
GENERAL CANDIDATE FORUM
At-Large Candidates
CLOSING CLICKERS

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY FOCUS EUGENE APPLEBAUM CHAIR IN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CROSSROADS CONSULTING

CitizenDetroit is made possible through Wayne State University and the generosity of The Eugene & Marcia Applebaum Family Foundation and The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.
### Mayoral Responsibilities
- The Executive/Manager, 4-year Term
- 2013 voter turnout for Mayor: 25%
- Appoints department directors, deputy directors, executive branch officials
- Negotiates development agreements, selects contractors
- Implements service programs and manages day-to-day operations

### City Council Responsibilities
- The Legislative/Oversight Body, 4-year Term
- 2013 voter turnout for City Council: 24% for district seats overall
- Approves the city budget, sale of city property, Mayoral appointees
- Approves development agreements and contracts
- Exercises oversight and investigatory power over all city departments
- Adopts ordinances and resolutions

### City Clerk Responsibilities
- Runs Elections, 4-year Term
- 2013 voter turnout for City Clerk: 24%
- Supervises all aspects of elections
- Supervises voter registration and certification of candidates for office
- Serves as official clerk for City Council
- Maintains records of all City Council ordinances, resolutions, meetings

### Board of Police Commissioners Responsibilities
- Civilian Supervisory Control & Oversight over Detroit Police Dept, 4-year Term
- 2013 voter turnout for Police Commission: 16% overall
- Charter purpose is “to increase public confidence and trust in the Detroit Police Department by providing competent, objective, and effective civilian oversight.”
- Oversees investigations of civilian complaints against police
- Develops policies for police department with Mayor and Police Chief
- 7 elected district-based members and 4 at-large members appointed by Mayor for 5-year terms

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### Candidates List for the General Election – November 7, 2017

#### City Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Name 1</th>
<th>Name 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Tamara Smith</td>
<td>James E. Tate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Roy McCalister, Jr.</td>
<td>Virgil Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Russ Bellant</td>
<td>Scott Benson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Latisha Johnson</td>
<td>Andre L. Spivey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Mary Sheffield</td>
<td>Jewel Ware</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Tyrone Carter</td>
<td>Raquel Castaneda-Lopez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>Gabe Leland</td>
<td>Regina Ross</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Police Commissioner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Name 1</th>
<th>Name 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Darryl D. Brown</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Conrad L. Mallett</td>
<td>Carron L. Pinkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Shirley Burch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Willie E. Bell</td>
<td>Scotty Boman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>George Adams, Jr.</td>
<td>Willie E. Burton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Lisa Carter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>William M. Davis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Representative in State Legislature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Name 1</th>
<th>Party</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Mark Corcoran</td>
<td>Republican</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Tenisha Yancey</td>
<td>Democratic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Gregory Creswell</td>
<td>Libertarian</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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*Total number of votes for that office/total number of registered voters

**Combined number of votes for all district offices/total number of registered voters

Source: Detroit Office of the City Clerk

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Source: Detroit Election Connection Newsletter
### SIZING UP CANDIDATE SPEECH

#### 1. PLATITUDES

A general statement that sounds good, but doesn’t offer specific actions the candidate will take.

- **Water is a right!**
  - Great! So what’s your plan to ensure water for families?

#### 2. PANADERING

Tells people what they want to hear to gain their votes. Often appeals to people’s prejudices or fears or myths.

- **I tell you “bold” and “challenging” ideas that confirm your views.**

#### 3. GOOD PIVOT/BAD PIVOT

- **GOOD PIVOT:** Responds, but redirects the topic by building a verbal bridge from one topic to a different topic that is their priority.
  - **Q:** Neighborhood revitalization
  - **A:** BLIGHT... → ...BUDGET DECISIONS

- **BAD PIVOT:** Avoids the topic and/or switches to different topics that they really want to talk about.
  - **Q:** Neighborhood revitalization
  - **A:** LET’S TALK ABOUT CLASSROOM SIZES!

#### 4. PERTINENT

- Directly responds to the question.
- Demonstrates understanding about the role of the office.
- Demonstrates accurate knowledge about the issue.

#### 5. POTSHOT

An unfounded or irrelevant criticism of an opponent’s character that doesn’t impact job performance (like gender or religion), when the target doesn’t have a chance to defend him/herself.

### WHAT TO LISTEN FOR WHEN HEARING A POLITICIAN TALK

- **DIRECTLY RESPOND TO QUESTION:**
- **SHOWS UNDERSTANDING OF ROLE:**
- **SHOWS ACCURATE KNOWLEDGE OF ISSUE:**
The Michigan Bureau of Elections audit largely finds “human error, not illegal activity, resulted in mismatches between the number of ballots and recorded voters.” How will you ensure that your office provides Detroiter with a smooth and trustworthy voting experience?

Background Information
The City Clerk chairs the 3-member Detroit Election Commission, which also includes the President of City Council and the City’s Corporation Counsel.
What are your priorities for innovation to ensure residents have convenient and timely access to city information?

**Background Information**

Democracy works when citizens are informed. The City Clerk staffs and keeps official record of City Council meetings, provides official notice of all public hearings, and ensures publication of and public notice of all ordinances and amendments. See the Detroit City Charter’s description:

Sec. 3.5-102. Duties and Powers of City Clerk.
The City Clerk shall:
1. Keep all papers filed in or pertaining to the Office of the City Clerk;
2. Keep the Corporation seal of the City;
3. When requested, certify, under the corporate seal, copies of all papers and records for the office;
4. Administer oaths;
5. Take affidavits;
6. Maintain reasonably accessible voter registration sites throughout the City on a year-round basis;
7. Serve as City Council’s clerk and keep a record of all its ordinances, resolutions, and other proceedings and perform other such duties as it may provide; and
8. Exercise other powers and duties as provided by law, this Charter, or ordinance.

**CITY COUNCIL/MAYOR QUESTION 1 (Affordable Housing):**

How will you ensure that city-controlled incentives are strategically targeted to reach the ideal mix and location of market-rate, affordable, and public housing?

**Background Information**

Affordable housing means a household uses 30% or less of monthly income on rent.

Area Median Income (AMI) is calculated for the region, and is much higher than Detroit’s median income.

“Low income” is defined by HUD as 80%AMI - so affordable rent would be $1372/month, while affordable rent for the median income Detroit renter would actually be $431/month.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$54,880</td>
<td>80% of Area Median Income (AMI) is $54,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$26,664</td>
<td>$19,744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$17,239</td>
<td>$431/month</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Detroit Household Median Income</th>
<th>Detroit Renter Household Median Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$25,744</td>
<td>$17,239</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The biggest housing shortage is for Detroit's lowest income households. But rent subsidies, which are available for the lowest income households, are in short supply. When the housing voucher waiting list was last opened, 40,000 households applied, and 7,000 were added to the waiting list. There are still 4,516 on the waiting list today.

In the chart to the right, you can see the number of renter households at each income level. Over 55% of renter households in Detroit make less than $19,000 a year.

Most new developments with affordable housing components are making 20% of their units affordable for 80% AMI, or households making double Detroit's median income.

However, building affordable housing can be expensive. Detroit's market is reportedly not yet strong enough to support unsubsidized affordable housing even in strong market areas.

According to a recent study commissioned by the City of Detroit (see image at right), a Midtown multifamily (MF) development that makes 20% of its units affordable to households at 80% AMI would still require public subsidy to be financially feasible.


Background Information continued

Since 2012, the city's workforce organization — Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation (DESC) — has received over $100 million to put Detroiters to work. According to its 2014-15 annual report, DESC spent $36 million and placed 8,595 Detroit residents in jobs.

However, over 70,000 Detroiters over the age of 16 are unemployed, and almost half of all Detroiters ages 16-64 are no longer in the labor force (retired, in school, caregiving, or otherwise not searching for work).

Detroit residents aged 25-64 with at least a Bachelor’s Degree were more than twice as likely to be employed as those who didn’t finish high school.

Those who didn’t finish high school were most likely to not be participating in the labor force at all.

CITY COUNCIL QUESTION 2 (Unemployment):

What metrics would you seek to provide proper oversight and ensure that the city’s workforce dollars are used to maximize employment for chronically unemployed and under-employed Detroit residents? Consider how you would define and value “job placement,” “job retention,” and “cost per student.”

Background Information

A 2016 report by Corporation for a Skilled Workforce found that Detroit had the lowest percentage of jobs relative to its population compared to cities with similar “hollow” cities. 16% of metro Detroit residents live in the central city, and there is about 1 job for every 3 residents. However, only 8% of metro Atlanta residents live in the central city, but there are almost 2 jobs for every resident.