



Personal Thoughts of Bruce Simpson, City of Detroit Ombudsman



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Hello Detroit!

Knowledge, Inclusion, Growth, and Cleanliness are all Important

As the Ombudsman, the head of an Independent Oversight Agency, it is essential to be as balanced and objective as possible when critiquing service delivery for our citizens. Common ground with the administration can be identified through sound policies and programs that improve our residents' quality of life. My office gathered community leaders virtually to inform their neighbors and members of their community groups of services they can benefit from through the City of Detroit. We brought together seventy-two community leaders from across the city to learn and view the Blight to Beauty program presentation and to meet **Katrina Crawley, Esq, Assistant Director of Blight Remediation, City of Detroit General Services Department**. We also gathered one hundred and seventy-five community leaders to educate them on **the DWSD Lifeline Program**. During this 2023 Ombudsman Reporting year, I will have additional meetings with our Community Leaders, focusing on good policies and programs that serve our citizens; stay tuned.

Establishing service delivery properly, on a level acceptable to our residents, takes work. First, we must increase our tax base by increasing our population. With new and major development taking place, Detroiters that live, work, pay taxes, and play in their great city of Detroit should be included in opportunities of transforming Detroit and not feel abandoned. Let's attempt to reduce the opposition to tax breaks for developers and corporations; let's make sure our Detroit residents are included, not excluded.

Lastly, my thoughts on our blight problems across the city; I believe the removal of blight and cleaning up of our neighborhoods should be our first priority before pivoting to other areas of the city.

"Improving Your Quality of Life on a Daily Basis"

Bruce Simpson, Ombudsman
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