

CITY OF DETROIT FISCAL 2007/08 BUDGET

AGENCY 53 OMBUDSPERSON

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Office of the Ombudsperson serves the people by investigating and seeking to resolve complaints against departments and agencies of City government.

DESCRIPTION

The City of Detroit Office of the Ombudsperson was established by Charter referendum on November 6, 1973 and became operational in 1974.

The Detroit City Ombudsperson, an independent governmental official, is appointed by the Detroit City Council. Complaints regarding an act or omission of a city department are received by telephone, e-mail, mail, or in person.

The office also receives many inquiries relative to the various city departments and other governmental agencies, and occasionally business entities. Periodic statistical reports are issued to the City Council and the Mayor. The office also makes recommendations to remedy systematic problems identified through its investigations.

The office has jurisdiction to investigate all city agencies except departments possessing subpoena power. The eleven (11) elected City officials are also excluded. In addition, the office does not handle issues pending legal considerations in the courts or under review by the City Council.

GOALS

1. Provide efficient, quality and user-friendly services to the public.
2. Restore citizen confidence where misunderstanding, error and omission have decreased confidence in government.
3. Investigate inadequate, archaic or inequitable ordinances, policies not consistently applied and inequitable or inadequate administrative or service procedures.
4. Advance innovative and practical recommendations to resolve recurring complaints.

DEPARTMENTAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION

	GENERAL <u>FUND</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
EXPENDITURES	\$1,391,707	\$1,391,707
REVENUES	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
NET TAX COST	\$1,391,707	\$1,391,707
POSITIONS	10	10