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Date: December 9, 2020

To: Gerard Markey, Assessor

FROM: Teresa Gillotti, Director

Office of Community and Economic Development

Subject: Review of Assessor Proposed Changes to the Poverty Tax Exemption

Thank you for allowing the opportunity to meet and discuss the proposed changes to the 2021 City of Ann Arbor Board of Review Guidelines for Poverty Exemptions

As I understand it, you will be maintaining the same income threshold as last year, which limits income eligibility to households up to 2 times or 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. The CARES Act funding allocated to our office through Michigan Department of Housing and Human Services also has a maximum of 200% of the Federal Poverty Level, so that is in line with DHHS programs to support low-income households.

I appreciate the recommended changes this year, including the increase in the maximum asset level from \$25,000 to \$50,000 and the increase person allotment from 1.10 to 1.20 for additional household members.

The Housing and Human Services Advisory Board is looking forward to having you join their January 2021 meeting, as they previously had requested increased communication and marketing about the poverty exemption for property taxes. They will also be looking forward to discussing ways to allow for a simplified application for those who have received the poverty exemption previously.

Thanks, and please let me know if you have any other questions.

-Teresa