



## Legislation Details (With Text)

|                        |   |                      |   |              |   |
|------------------------|---|----------------------|---|--------------|---|
| <b>File #:</b>         | 20-0966   | <b>Version:</b>      | 1 | <b>Name:</b> | Resolution Directing the City Administrator to Develop a Plan to Review and Increase the Utilization of the Poverty Exemption Program |
| <b>Type:</b>           | Resolution  | <b>Status:</b>       |   |              | Passed  |
| <b>File created:</b>   | 7/6/2020  | <b>In control:</b>   |   |              | City Council  |
| <b>On agenda:</b>      | 7/6/2020  | <b>Final action:</b> |   |              | 7/6/2020  |
| <b>Enactment date:</b> | 7/6/2020  | <b>Enactment #:</b>  |   |              | R-20-268  |
| <b>Title:</b>          | Resolution Directing the City Administrator to Develop a Plan to Review and Increase the Utilization of the Poverty Exemption Program |                      |   |              |   |
| <b>Sponsors:</b>       | Christopher Taylor, Zachary Ackerman, Anne Bannister, Jack Eaton, Jane Lumm, Jeff Hayner  |                      |   |              |   |
| <b>Indexes:</b>        |   |                      |   |              |   |
| <b>Code sections:</b>  |   |                      |   |              |   |
| <b>Attachments:</b>    |   |                      |   |              |   |

| Date     | Ver. | Action By    | Action   | Result |
|----------|------|--------------|----------|--------|
| 7/6/2020 | 1    | City Council | Approved | Pass   |

Resolution Directing the City Administrator to Develop a Plan to Review and Increase the Utilization of the Poverty Exemption Program

Prepared by: Matthew V. Horning, Financial Services Area Administrator & Interim CFO

Reviewed by: Matthew Thomas, Assistant City Attorney

Approved by: Tom Crawford, Interim City Administrator

Whereas, The City of Ann Arbor has adopted numerous resolutions that endeavor to increase housing affordability and improve social equity;

Whereas, Ann Arbor's average for-sale home price is nearly \$400,000.00, making home ownership unaffordable for households that earn less than \$85,000.00 per year;

Whereas, Ann Arbor is home to low-income homeowners that struggle to remain in our community;

Whereas, The City of Ann Arbor has instituted a Poverty Exemption program that waives property taxes for residents living near the federal poverty line;

Whereas, Many residents are unaware of the Poverty Exemption program; and

Whereas, The Poverty Exemption program is likely underutilized;

RESOLVED, That the City Council directs the City Administrator to develop a plan to review and increase the utilization of the Poverty Exemption program. Ideas for such a plan could include:

1. Increase advertisement through multiple channels, such as the City of Ann Arbor website, water bills, tax statements, press releases, and AAATA ads;
2. Raise the income threshold to accommodate more households; and
3. Reduce the complexity of informational materials and application.

RESOLVED, That the City Council requests that the City Administrator, or a designee, meet with relevant stakeholders, such as the Housing and Human Services Advisory Board (HHSAB), in developing this plan; and

RESOLVED, That the City Council directs the City Administrator to deliver this plan by December 31, 2020.

Sponsored by: Mayor Taylor and Councilmembers Ackerman, Bannister, Eaton, Lumm, and Hayner