

## **Amendment 1**

### **Resolution to Appropriate \$300,000 from the Marijuana Excise Tax Rebate and \$400,000 from Opioid Settlement Funds (\$700,000 total) to the Ann Arbor Housing Development Corporation for the Rising Hope Housing Program and Approved Uses and Strategies of Opioid Settlement Funds**

Whereas, Cannabis and drug laws have disproportionately targeted people of color and lower-income communities, creating generations of systemic harm including barriers to housing, employment, financial aid, child custody, and immigration status, as recognized by City Council in R-21-098;

Whereas, Opioid Settlement funds are intended to address substance use treatment, recovery support, harm reduction, and evidence-informed interventions that improve health outcomes and community stability;

Whereas, Returning citizens and justice-impacted individuals continue to face compounding barriers to stable housing, employment, health care, and economic mobility as a direct result of prior incarceration, criminalization, trauma, discrimination, and systemic inequity, barriers that do not end upon release but follow people and their families for years;

Whereas, Obtaining a housing voucher alone does not ensure housing stability. Many justice-impacted individuals and families continue to face landlord screening barriers, documentation requirements, stigma, limited transportation, digital access challenges, and the difficulty of navigating fragmented health and human service systems without coordinated support;

Whereas, Standard service systems can inadvertently retraumatize participants through rigid requirements, surveillance-oriented approaches, and punitive responses to setbacks, reducing engagement, trust, and long-term outcomes, which is why trauma-informed care is not a preference but a necessity for this population;

Whereas, Individuals impacted by the criminal legal system experience disproportionately high rates of substance use disorders, with a majority of incarcerated individuals nationally meeting criteria for a substance use disorder; and the period immediately following release from jail or prison carries significantly elevated overdose mortality risk, particularly in the first weeks after release;

Whereas, Evidence-based medications for opioid use disorder, including buprenorphine, significantly reduce mortality and support recovery; yet access remains limited due to fragmented care coordination, insurance disruptions, and limited linkage to treatment during reentry, barriers that trauma-informed case management is specifically designed to help navigate;

Whereas, Uninsured, underinsured, and Medicaid-eligible individuals in Washtenaw County seeking substance use treatment are connected through a centralized screening and referral process coordinated by Washtenaw County Community Mental Health, and trauma-informed case managers play a critical role in helping justice-impacted individuals disclose treatment needs and successfully access that system;

Whereas, Rising Hope for Housing was first approved in the 2023 budget cycle as a collaborative, community-built response to these interconnected needs; not a single-provider program but a deliberately constructed partnership among A Brighter Way, Shelter Association of Washtenaw County, and SOS Community Services, with overall coordination provided by the Washtenaw Housing Alliance in partnership with the Ann Arbor Housing Commission;

Whereas, This collaborative model reflects a shared recognition that no single agency can address the full range of barriers facing justice-impacted individuals and families; lasting housing stability requires coordinated, cross-system support that meets people where they are;

Whereas, Program data from July–December 2025 demonstrates both deep need and meaningful impact: approximately 80% of participants were directly justice-involved and an additional 19% were justice-impacted through a spouse, partner, or child; approximately 70% identified as Black; 57% identified as female; 37% were heads of single-parent households; and 43% had children under 18 in the home;

Whereas, The Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness provided trauma-informed care and case management training to the Rising Hope collaborative in 2026, including reusable onboarding and refresher materials designed to strengthen best practices, reduce retraumatization for staff and participants alike, and support long-term workforce wellness;

Whereas, The program's demonstrated success helped the Washtenaw Housing Alliance secure additional state funding through the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity to expand services; reflecting growing external recognition of Rising Hope's effectiveness and the strength of its collaborative model;

Whereas, The Michigan State Housing Development Authority reopened both the Housing Choice Voucher Homeless Preference Wait List and the Reentry Voucher Wait List in 2025, increasing the number of individuals and families eligible for housing assistance and directly increasing demand for the kind of trauma-informed housing stabilization and wraparound support that Rising Hope for Housing provides;

RESOLVED, That City Council appropriate \$300,000 of the Marijuana Excise Tax Rebate from the General Fund fund balance to the FY 2027 General Fund Ann Arbor Housing Commission budget and appropriate \$400,000 of the National Opioid Settlement funding from the General Fund fund balance to the FY 2027 General Fund Ann Arbor Housing Commission budget on a one-time basis for the Rising Hope Housing Program;

RESOLVED, That these funds shall support services including, but not limited to, mental health counseling, peer support, substance use and recovery services, harm reduction, behavioral health navigation, transportation, housing advocacy, landlord-tenant mediation, legal assistance, and trauma-informed case management;

RESOLVED, That the National Opioid Settlement Funds will be used to support treatment of Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and any co-occurring Substance Use Disorder or Mental Health (SUD/MH) conditions through evidence-based or evidence-informed programs or strategies, pursuant to the terms of the settlement agreements' list of approved uses and core strategies, as well as the guidance published by the State of Michigan for said approved uses and strategies;

RESOLVED, That the Ann Arbor Housing Development Corporation may use up to five percent (5%) of the Marijuana Excise Tax Rebate funds for administrative costs associated with the program;

RESOLVED, That the amounts authorized herein may be used without regard to fiscal year.

Sponsors: Harrison, Watson, Ghazi Edwin, Cornell & Eyer

## **Amendment 2**

### **Amendment to add 2.0 FTE Firefighter positions to the Fire Services Unit and Eliminate the 1.0 FTE Vacant Human Resources Manager Position and Appropriate \$27,546 to the Fire General Fund FY 2027 Budget from the General Fund Unobligated Fund Balance (\$27,546.00)**

Whereas, Since FY21 The Ann Arbor Fire Department has consistently exceeded their overtime budget;

Whereas, To-date in FY26 more than 18,000 hours of overtime have been incurred in The City of Ann Arbor Fire Department to meet minimum staffing requirements;

Whereas, In recent years necessary overtime has been covered through use of the General Fund Unobligated Fund Balance and budgeting for three additional FTEs is anticipated to mitigate overtime expenditures and reduce reliance on year-end fund balance appropriations to cover such overages;

Whereas, The City Council recognizes and deeply appreciates the extraordinary service, professionalism, and sacrifice of the members of the Ann Arbor Fire Department, who respond each day to emergencies, fires, medical crises, hazardous conditions, and moments of profound trauma in order to protect the lives and maintain safety in our community;

Whereas, The City Council acknowledges that sustained mandated overtime can impose significant physical, mental, and emotional strain on firefighters and first responders, contributing to fatigue, increased risk of injury, stress-related health impacts, and reduced time with family and loved ones, and therefore recognizes the importance of achieving staffing levels and workplace conditions that support the long-term health, wellness, retention, and effectiveness of Ann Arbor's fire service personnel;

Whereas, Assuming use of leave continues at the rate of usage experienced over the last four fiscal years and we are able to fill the newly added positions at the onset of the fiscal year, it is estimated that each additional Firefighter position would result in the elimination of approximately 2,400 overtime hours, leading to a projected total reduction of 7,200 hours across three positions;

Whereas, Human Resources currently has a vacant Human Resources Services Manager position;

Whereas, Human Resources is currently undergoing a reorganization and can delay filling the vacancy; and

Whereas, Should FY 27 General Fund revenues exceed budget, the City Administrator has the authority to utilize the approved over hire FTE's to authorize the hire of the Human Resources position as part of the reorganization;

RESOLVED, That the 1.0 FTE Vacant Human Resources Services Manager position be eliminated;

RESOLVED, That 2.0 FTE firefighter positions be added to the FY27 Fire Services budget on a recurring basis;

RESOLVED, That a total of 894 full-time equivalent positions be adopted in the FY27 budget;

RESOLVED, That as part of the workforce planning initiative, Council is authorizing staff to exceed the authorized 894 FTEs by 10 on a temporary basis;

RESOLVED, That City Council appropriate \$27,546 to the General Fund Fire Service expenditure budget from the General Fund Unobligated Fund Balance

Sponsors: Mayor Taylor, Radina, Eyer, Mallek, Harrison