

**DETROIT CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION**

**PROPOSAL/ISSUE REVIEW SUMMARY**

**ISSUE NUMBER:** BF 11

**ISSUE CATEGORY:** Budget & Finance

**SOURCE:** Mayor, January 2010 *“Report on the Impact of the Detroit City Charter on City Service Administration”*

**RELATED CHARTER SECTIONS:** §13-107 (Fire and Police Pension Committees)  
Also cite 1918 Charter provisions related to this issue

**RELEVANT ORDINANCE SECTION:**

**RELEVANT LAW(S):**

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**ISSUE/PROPOSAL STATEMENT:** Eliminate or reduce benefits paid to injured uniformed employees to a level consistent with State law.

**RATIONALE:** “The current Charter carries a provision forward from the 1918 Charter setting the level of benefits to be awarded injured uniformed employees (Title 9, Chapter VII “Policemen and Firemen Retirement System”, 1918 Charter).

The net effect of this provision is that the city supports benefits in excess of the level of benefits prescribed by the State of Michigan Workers Compensation Act, in turn, exceeding the level of benefits provided to non-uniform employees of city government.

While a 1973 Michigan State Supreme Court case (*Detroit Police Officers Association v city of Detroit, 391 Mich. 44, 214 N.W.2d 803 (1974)*) said that pension benefits for city of Detroit uniform employees are subject to collective bargaining, thus making the provision legally anachronistic, there may still be lingering confusion about the level of benefits to which uniform employees are entitled which may color the collective bargaining discussion on this matter.” -Mayor’s *Report on the Impact of the Detroit City Charter on City Service Administration, p. 6-7.*

**ANALYSIS:**

**DISPOSITION/COMMISSION ACTION:**

**NOTES:**