

DETROIT CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
PROPOSAL/ISSUE REVIEW SUMMARY

ISSUE NUMBER: GDS 92

ISSUE CATEGORY: Government Department & Services

SOURCE: Mayor Bing Administration
Letter, Rec'd December 21, 2010

RELATED CHARTER SECTIONS: Art. 6, Ch. 6 (Environmental Affairs)

RELEVANT ORDINANCE SECTION:

RELEVANT LAW(S):

ISSUE/PROPOSAL STATEMENT: Recognize the elimination of the Environmental Affairs Department whose functions were merged with the Building and Safety Engineering department creating a new department called Building, Safety Engineering, and Environmental Department.

ARTICLE 6. THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH: STAFF DEPARTMENTS

CHAPTER 6. ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Sec. 6-601. ~~Department of environment.~~

~~The department of environment is headed by the director of environment.~~

Sec. 6-602. ~~General purpose.~~

~~The purpose of this chapter is to conserve and protect the natural resources of the City of Detroit in the interest of the health, safety and welfare of the people, to promote improved social and economic conditions in the city and to protect limited environmental resources for the future benefit of city inhabitants.~~

Sec. 6-603. ~~Powers and duties.~~

~~The department of environment shall:~~

- 1- ~~Develop and implement a coordinated and comprehensive environmental policy for the City of Detroit;~~
- 2- ~~Administer, enforce, manage and coordinate compliance by the City of Detroit with federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations;~~
- 3- ~~Coordinate environmental programs for protection and conservation of land, water and air resources;~~
- 4- ~~Develop and implement programs for response to emergency conditions which pose an immediate danger to health and safety to the people of Detroit or to the city's environment;~~
- 5- ~~Advise, consult and cooperate with agencies of the federal, state and local governments in furtherance of the purposes of this chapter;~~
- 6- ~~Develop and coordinate policy, programs and procedures for remediation, redevelopment and reuse of contaminated land sites in the City of Detroit;~~
- 7- ~~Develop and coordinate policy, programs and procedures to encourage and promote innovative and competitively viable sustainable economic development in the City of Detroit consistent with protection of the environment;~~
- 8- ~~Provide technical support and assistance to other city departments in environmental matters, including response to federal, state and local governmental enforcement activities; qualification for eligible grant moneys, etc.;~~
- 9- ~~Develop plans and proposals for joint cooperative investigation and research with the public and with private agencies and organizations on methods for eliminating or reducing land, air and water pollution;~~
- 10- ~~Collect and disseminate appropriate educational literature and information, and otherwise promote education programs for the purposes of advising the general public of the necessity and methods for pollution prevention, securing public cooperation in pollution prevention measures and increasing public awareness of the importance of environmental protection and conservation of natural resources;~~
- 11- ~~Do any and all other acts which may be necessary for the implementation of the powers and duties conferred on the department under this chapter.~~

Sec. 6-604. Conservation.

~~The department of environment shall develop programs for the protection and conservation of natural resources within the City of Detroit.~~

Sec. 6-605. ~~Environmental legislation.~~

~~The department of environment shall propose new ordinances, laws and regulations to the mayor, city council and other governmental entities as appropriate for improvement of the quality of the environment and promotion of the mission of the department.~~

RATIONALE: *“On May 25, 2010, the City Council approved amendment of the Executive Organization Plan to merge the Building and Safety Engineering Department, an operating department, with the Department of Environmental Affairs, a staff department. This amendment resulted in the creation of the Buildings, Safety Engineering, and Environmental Department. These changes reflect the fact that functions of the new department fall within the sphere of an operating department. As such, the Environmental Affairs Department should be omitted from the revised Detroit City Charter as a staff department.”-Mayor Bing Administration, Letter, Rec’d December 21, 2010.*

ANALYSIS:

DISPOSITION/COMMISSION ACTION:

NOTES: