



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 2, 2023

WORKING SESSION

I. ROLL CALL

A Working Session of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners was held at the Administration Building, in the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, on August 2, 2023.

The meeting was called to order at 05:32 PM by Comm. Somerville, Chair of the Working Session.

Members Present:	Comms. Katie Scott, Shannon Beeman, Justin Hodge, Andy LaBarre, Crystal Lyte, Jason Maciejewski, Yousef Rabhi, Caroline Sanders, Annie Somerville
Members Absent:	None
Others Present	Greg Dill, County Administrator; Andrew DeLeeuw, Interim Deputy County Administrator; Michelle Billard & Michael Auten, Corporation Counsel; Terrence Williams, Equity Office; Guillermo Hernandez, Director of Human Resources; Jeff Rose & Brian Mason, ITS; Jason Fee, Facilities Management; Ashley Hall, BOC Communications and Operations Manager; Bryce Allmacher, Clerk's Office; and members of the public.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Jo Ann McCollum of the WCRC thanked the Board of Commissioners for their support of the Road Commission.

Zachariah Farah urged the Commissioners to do more to support public housing and Public Housing Authorities in Washtenaw County.

III. REPORT FROM THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

None.

IV. REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS LIAISON

None.

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Members of the Washtenaw County Youth Commission gave a presentation to the Board on the Youth Commission's work during the 2022-2023 term. Youth Commissioners participated in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Training, County Government training, and a Countywide tour. Commissioners established a racial equity task force, took actions to help prevent gun violence in Washtenaw County, and helped

organize get out the vote campaigns. Individual Youth Commissioners spoke about their experiences over the past year. Three incoming Youth Commissioners introduced themselves to the Board.

Comm. Somerville asked how to improve the Youth Commission.

A Commissioner said that the body hopes to bring resolutions before the board this coming term; requested that the Board consider those items in earnest.

Comm. Lyte thanked the Commissioners for their work.

Comm. LaBarre asked how the Youth Commission can make their work relevant to a greater number of their peers.

Comm. LaBarre asked the Commissioners to speak to how local policy impacts their lives.

A Commissioner said that more youth are becoming civically engaged, just that they may not have the tools to engage fully. A Commissioner noted that social media is a useful tool for extending their outreach to other young people.

A Commissioner said that they have already taken steps towards additional youth engagement through some of the Commission's voter outreach activities.

Comm. Hodge thanked the Commissioners for their work and noted that internal discussions regarding improvements to the Youth Commission are taking place at the County.

Comm. Rabhi thanked the Commissioners for their work and their efforts to make voting more accessible to young people in Michigan.

Comm. Beeman asked the Commissioners if they plan to stay engaged with local government.

Comm. Scott thanked the Commissioners for sacrificing part of their free time to serve their community.

Comm. Maciejewski asked about the Youth Commission's work on gun violence prevention and behavioral health services.

VI. ITEMS FOR CURRENT/FUTURE DISCUSSION

Comm. Rabhi asked why the Working Session does not schedule time for follow-up to public participation.

Comm. Hodge provided clarity as to why the Board limits the amount of time it spends in formal meetings.

VII. ADJOURN TO NEXT SESSION

Comm. Rabhi, seconded by Comm. Scott, moved to adjourn. Voice vote - motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 PM.

Annie Somerville, Chair of the Working Session
Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register

By: Bryce Allmacher, Deputy Clerk
Board Approved: September 6, 2023