

GROUND RULES FOR DISCUSSION

- 1. Treat other members of the discussion with respect.
- 2. Participate. Be open, honest, and forthcoming. Explain the reasons for your choices and recommendations.
- 3. Don't try to dominate the discussion. Invite and welcome other points of view.
- 4. Listen carefully and try to understand other viewpoints.
- 5. Stay on topic and limit side conversations.
- 6. Turn cellphones off or to vibrate so as not to interrupt the discussion.
- 7. Be mindful of how much time is left to complete the exercise.

NOTES



Participant name: _____

DETROIT IN THE TRUMP ERA
UNDERSTAND THE ISSUES. KNOW YOUR GOVERNMENT.

AGENDA
March 16, 2017

- DINNER
- WELCOME
Dr. Irvin D. Reid and Sheila Cockrel
- OPENING CLICKERS
- PANEL
Ron Fournier (Crains),
Stephen Henderson (Detroit Free Press),
Alexis Wiley (City of Detroit)
- PRESENTATION and TABLE ACTIVITY
President Trump’s New Deal for Black America
- VOTER ENGAGEMENT PROJECT
- CLOSING CLICKERS



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GET INFORMED. BE ENGAGED.

PRESIDENT TRUMP’S NEW DEAL FOR BLACK AMERICA

EDUCATION

President Trump: “...I will be the nation’s biggest cheerleader for school choice in all 50 states.”

Congressional Black Caucus: “Rather than address ... interconnected barriers to academic achievement, your plan would strip away \$20 billion in funding from public schools in order to create the largest private school voucher program in American history.”

Q: **CitizenDetroit question:** Many agree that public education must improve, especially for low income and minority children. For you, what is the most important way to ensure that all children receive a quality education?

RESOURCES

Local discussion: Betsy DeVos, segregation, and school choice in Michigan — Bridge Magazine http://www.bridgemi.com/talent-education/betsy-devos-and-segregation-school-choice
Local discussion: State of Michigan sent Detroit parents a list of “better performing” schools - that they couldn’t get to. - Chalkbeat Detroit http://www.chalkbeat.org/posts/detroit/2017/02/13/detroit-parents-steered-to-better-schools-that-dont-actually-take-detroit-kids/
National discussion: Researchers are surprised to find that in three recent reports on statewide school voucher systems, vouchers resulted in lower test scores - NYTimes https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/23/upshot/dismal-results-from-vouchers-surprise-researchers-as-devos-era-begins.html
National discussion: Why Massachusetts charter schools (some of the nation’s best) are worried about new Education Secretary Betsy DeVos - Boston Metro http://www.metro.us/boston/do-massachusetts-charter-schools-support-betsy-devos/zsJqbj---ypRlfD0liig/
In depth: Voucher studies show risks to school systems outweigh insignificant gains in test scores and limited gain in graduation rates; could detract from proven methods to improve educational outcomes. - Economy Policy Initiative http://www.epi.org/publication/school-vouchers-are-not-a-proven-strategy-for-improving-student-achievement/

PRESIDENT TRUMP’S NEW DEAL FOR BLACK AMERICA

ENVIRONMENT

President Trump: “I will also cancel all wasteful climate change spending from Obama-Clinton.”

EPA’s first Administrator: “A strong and credible regulatory regime is essential to the smooth functioning of our economy.”

Q: **CitizenDetroit question:** President Trump and EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt believe that environmental protections (clean air, clean water, fighting climate change) hurt economic progress. What do you believe?

RESOURCES

Local discussion: How 97% cut to Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (from \$300 million down to \$10 million) will affect Michigan. - MLive http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2017/03/trump_great_lakes_epa_cuts.html
Opinion: 84-year-old Walter Ruckelshaus, two-time EPA administrator under Republican presidents, warns against repeating past mistakes of going too far in rolling back environmental regulations. - NYTimes Letter to the Editor https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/07/opinion/a-lesson-trump-and-the-epa-should-heed.html
National discussion: 40% of EPA’s budget funds state programs. The White House budget proposal includes cuts to Great Lakes cleanup (-97%), brownfields (-31%), lead prevention (-30%) and state drinking water grants (-30%). - Oregon Live http://www.oregonlive.com/environment/index.ssf/2017/03/here_are_42_of_president_donal.html
National discussion: Analysis of how proposed budget cuts to the EPA would impact its programs, particularly climate and ocean science. “At 2016 levels, the cuts would fund the U.S. Department of Defense for just over 30 hours.” - National Geographic http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2017/03/trump-cuts-epa-noaa-environmental-science-climate-change-impacts/
National discussion: Photos from the 1970s show how the United States looked before the Environmental Protection Agency. - Fortune, National Archives http://fortune.com/2017/02/28/how-the-united-states-looked-before-the-epa/ https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2009/spring/documerica.html

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S NEW DEAL FOR BLACK AMERICA

HEALTHCARE

President Trump: "If we don't repeal and replace this disastrous law (Obamacare), we will lose our healthcare system forever."

US. Rep Joe Kennedy III: "There is no mercy in a system that makes healthcare a luxury."

Q: **CitizenDetroit question:** How much responsibility do you believe the government has in ensuring that everyone has healthcare coverage? How does that compare to the government's obligation to be fiscally responsible with taxpayer dollars?

RESOURCES

Local Discussion: Governor Snyder is concerned how the GOP's healthcare bill would affect Michigan's Medicaid program Healthy Michigan, which enrolled 650,000. - MI Radio http://michiganradio.org/post/snyder-not-board-gop-health-care-overhaul
Primer: Comparison of Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) and the House Republicans' new repeal and replacement plan. The plan would replace income-based subsidies with age-based tax credits, cap federal spending on Medicaid, eliminate Obamacare's new taxes and individual mandate, and keep some popular Obamacare provisions. - LA Times http://www.latimes.com/projects/la-na-pol-obamacare-repeal/
National Discussion: Conservative Republicans are also disappointed with the GOP healthcare replacement bill - for not being conservative enough. - National Review http://www.nationalreview.com/article/445573/congressional-republican-obamacare-replacement-disappointing-failure
National Discussion: A "reasonable conservative replacement" to Obamacare would . - Pacific Standard Magazine https://psmag.com/heres-what-a-reasonable-conservative-replacement-to-obamacare-would-look-like-57561147cffa#.vxmbocedh
In depth: The replacement bill eliminates several mechanisms that fund Obamacare. Though unpopular, the individual mandate was originally a Republican idea, first proposed by the conservative Heritage Foundation. - New Yorker http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2012/06/25/unpopular-mandate
In depth: President Obama's own analysis of the Affordable Care Act's accomplishments and lessons learned. - Journal of the American Medical Association http://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2533698

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S NEW DEAL FOR BLACK AMERICA

POLICING & CIVIL RIGHTS

President Trump: "The war on police urged on by my rival is reckless, and dangerous, and puts African-American lives at risk. We must work with our police, not against them."

Congressional Black Caucus: "Unfortunately, your actions... raise great concerns about the prospects of continuing the progress [on police reform] made under the outgoing Administration."

Q: **CitizenDetroit question:** After years of efforts to combat abuses in police departments and the criminal justice system, the pendulum is swinging back towards emphasizing "law and order." For you, what is the most important way to ensure safe neighborhoods without violating the civil rights of individuals?

RESOURCES

Local discussion: The Detroit Police Department was just released from a 13-year federal consent decree (2003-2016) following a Department of Justice investigation into allegations of excessive force, cell conditions, and more. - Metro Times http://www.metrotimes.com/detroit/public-eye/Content?oid=2147505
Local history: "Detroit Under STRESS" published by From the Ground Up, a Detroit grassroots political organization (1973) Find at www.citizendetroit.org
National Discussion: As a candidate, Donald Trump called for expansion of stop-and-frisk, a controversial NYC police strategy that was ruled unconstitutional in 2013. - PBS http://www.pbs.org/newshour/rundown/donald-trumps-stop-frisk-proposal-raises-questions/
National discussion: Eight ways Attorney General (AG) Jeff Sessions could change criminal justice. From police to prosecutions to prisons, the AG holds wide sway. - Marshall Project https://www.themarshallproject.org/2016/11/18/8-ways-jeff-sessions-could-change-criminal-justice#.p5RJvXEzv
In Depth: AG Jeff Sessions' vision for the Dept. of Justice includes stopping investigations of police abuses, tightening voting rules, restricting immigration - NYTimes Magazine https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/28/magazine/jeff-sessions-stephen-bannon-justice-department.html

PRESIDENT TRUMP’S NEW DEAL FOR BLACK AMERICA

JOB & ECONOMY

President Trump: “At the center of my revitalization plan is the issue of trade.... lower the business tax from 35% to 15% ... massive middle class tax cut ... I will also pursue financial reforms [such as repealing Dodd-Frank regulations] ...

Congressional Black Caucus: “The CBC supports a national strategy to eliminate poverty ... Tax incentives alone will not restore struggling communities.... target investment to those communities that need it most ... Your [deregulation] proposals ... show a lack of awareness of the impact [predatory lending has] had on our communities.”

Q: **CitizenDetroit question:** President Trump promised deregulation, tax cuts, “America First” trade deals, and infrastructure projects to create jobs. What do you believe are the key actions government can take to support jobs and businesses?

RESOURCES

Local discussion: Michigan ranks no. 6 in the nation for number of foreign export-related jobs, and has one of the largest foreign export-related economies in the nation. “Politics meets facts on free-trade deals in Michigan.” - Bridge Magazine

<http://www.bridgemi.com/public-sector/politics-meets-facts-free-trade-deals-michigan>

Local history: In 2014, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) fined Flagstar bank millions for violating Dodd-Frank rules in preventing people from saving their homes from foreclosure. - Detroit Free Press

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/michigan/2014/09/29/flagstar-regulators-mortgages-fine/16431517/stand-overhaul/97812610/>

National Discussion: President Trump considers a \$1 trillion infrastructure plan a central piece of his promise to boost jobs. - Washington Post

https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/trump-activates-team-for-1-trillion-infrastructure-plan-but-challenges-mount/2017/03/08/ae57eaba-035e-11e7-b1e9-a05d3c21f7cf_story.html?utm_term=.2c001f703b7f

National discussion: President Trump proposes a “middle income tax cut.” NPR analyzes who the proposal would really benefit. - NPR

<http://www.npr.org/2016/11/13/501739277/who-benefits-from-donald-trumps-tax-plan>

National discussion: GOP may have good ideas for corporate tax reform - Washington Post

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2017/03/11/when-it-comes-to-corporate-tax-reform-the-gop-may-be-on-to-something-really/?tid=pm_business_pop&utm_term=.a4248c9d8d27

PRESIDENT TRUMP’S NEW DEAL FOR BLACK AMERICA

IMMIGRATION

President Trump: “No group has been more economically harmed by decades of illegal immigration than low-income African-American workers.”

CBC: “The CBC will not buy in to the divisive rhetoric that blames immigration for the social and economic problems in African-American communities.”

Q: **CitizenDetroit question:** What do you believe is America’s role in responding to refugees fleeing war, famine, economic despair, political persecution? Do you believe America benefits from or is harmed by immigration? What do you believe should be done about the roughly 11 million undocumented immigrants currently in the United States?

RESOURCES

Local Discussion: President Trump has not yet terminated DACA, an Obama-era executive order protecting undocumented immigrants brought to US as children - WDET

<http://wdet.org/posts/2017/03/06/84794-president-trump-has-not-touched-policy-that-creates-opportunities-for-undocumented-millennials/>

Local discussion: Metro Detroiters split on reactions to President Trump’s revised immigration order halting US entry from six Muslim-majority countries - Detroit Free Press

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/2017/03/06/new-executive-order-immigrants-draws-mixed-reaction/98811028/>

Naitonal discussion: President Trump has promised to build a wall and make Mexico pay for it, and hire 15,000 more border patrol agents to step up deportations despite 90% decrease in illegal entries through the southern border since 2005. - The Arizona Republic

<http://www.azcentral.com/story/news/politics/border-issues/2016/10/09/how-many-mexicans-actually-cross-border-illegally/91280026/>

National discussion: President Trump’s executive order cuts federal funding to “sanctuary cities” that do not cooperate with federal immigration enforcement - The Atlantic

<https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2017/01/trump-crack-down-sanctuary-city/514427/>

National discussion: President Trump proposed curbs to legal immigration and exchange current family unity principle for merit-based system. - NYTimes

nytimes.com/2017/03/01/us/politics/immigration-trump.html?mtrref=www.google.com