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DETROIT VOTERS BELIEVE CITY IS ON THE WRONG TRACK BUT REMAIN OPTIMISTIC FOR THE FUTURE, NEW POLL FINDS

DETROIT, Mich., September 3, 2008 – A Detroit citywide poll of voters, commissioned by Detroit Renaissance, a private, non-profit leadership organization dedicated to accelerating the region’s economic growth, found that 80% believe the City of Detroit is headed in the wrong direction. Yet, the poll, conducted to gauge voter attitudes toward a number of issues, including possible head-to-head match-ups for mayor, finds voters optimistic despite their current dismal outlook.

“What is both surprising and encouraging about these results is the optimism expressed by voters despite the current negative environment in the city.” said Doug Rothwell, president, Detroit Renaissance. “Detroit voters are optimistic because there are qualified leaders available to help lead the City forward. We find it encouraging that City residents recognize the current negative environment can be changed through new leadership.”

Highlights of the poll include:

- 58% of voters are optimistic that things will be better in Detroit one year from now while 12.3% believe things will get worse and 22.3% believe things will stay the same.
- As with the remainder of Michigan, “Jobs” is the top issue among 33.8% of Detroit voters. Crime and drugs ranked second at 25.2%. Education was third at 19.8%. Government corruption came in fourth at 11.8%. 8.3% said the lack of government services was their top concern.

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- The survey found that Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick's support has almost completely eroded among Detroit voters. Only 21% view him favorably as compared to 73.7% who view him unfavorably. 68.7% believe Kilpatrick should resign from office while 28.8% believe he should remain in office. 72.0% believe Detroit will be better off if someone else is mayor.
- In mayoral race head-to-head matchups, Dave Bing wins every potential match-up by a significant margin and holds a substantial lead even in multi-candidate ballot races.
- Detroiters have a strongly negative view of City Council, and feel that the Detroit School Board is doing an even worse job than the City Council. 85.2% of Detroit voters rate the performance of the Detroit City Council as fair or poor - 46.7% rate their performance "poor". 89.5% of voters give the School Board a fair or poor performance rating as compared to 6.5% that say excellent or good - 67.8% of Detroit voters give the Detroit School Board a poor rating.

A detailed summary of the poll is also posted on Detroit Renaissance's website at: www.detroitrenaissance.com. The Glengariff Group, Inc. conducted a 600 sample survey of Detroit voters from August 8-11, 2008. Respondents were randomly selected from all voters that cast a ballot in the 2005 Detroit Mayoral Election and were stratified by gender, ethnicity and State Senate District. The survey has a margin of error of +/-4.0% with a 95% level of confidence.

About Detroit Renaissance:

Detroit Renaissance provides leadership to accelerate the economic transformation of Detroit and Southeast Michigan. Renaissance accomplishes this work through serving as a catalyst to develop growth strategies, advocating for those strategies and championing specific initiatives that accelerate growth. A 501(c)(3) organization that was formed in 1970, Detroit Renaissance includes the chief executive officers of the region's most significant employers and universities. For more information, visit www.detroitrenaissance.com.