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**MAYORAL CANDIDATE BARROW ISSUES BING'S DINGS – A 45 DAY REPORT
CARD**

Gives Failing Grades on Financial Mismanagement, Transparency and Being a Rich Detroit Renter

DETROIT. June 24, 2009 — Mayoral Candidate Tom Barrow today released his report card on Interim Mayor Dave Bing's first 45 days in office with a list of what he called "Bing's Dings" highlighted by inexperienced comments, rookie political mistakes and an open showing of disregard for the Detroit voters whom he promised more.

Bing's Dings:

Admitted his inexperience with city finances – "to me, there are just some things honestly I don't understand," said Bing. To me, they are just in a gray area." *Source: Detroit News, May 7, 2009*

Grade F: A recent report that the City has been illegally siphoning funds belonging to the Detroit Public Library and Schools funds to pay for city operations improperly circumvented the public and the City Council.

"Every city executive who participated in this improper diversion of School and Library funds, including the Interim Mayor, should stand before the public and explain themselves," said Barrow. Two weeks ago, Barrow released his assessment that the City was underestimating the true deficit which, according to Barrow, was nearing \$1 billion. An assessment which is now apparently being shown accurate as the city's cash dries up.

2. RenCen GM giveaway deal shows the Interim Mayor is easily intimidated.

Grade F: Bing succumbed to Wayne County Executive Ficano's intimidation when he fell for the empty threat that General Motors was going to leave downtown Detroit for Warren. This was a ploy which bullied a weak and susceptible Detroit Mayor.

"GM had announced no intention of ever leaving downtown Detroit, and we should never have agreed to give a multi-billion dollar corporation \$25 million in tax revenue when we

are broke ourselves. Certainly without an analysis, public hearing or even the certitude that GM was even considering closing down the RenCen and moving to Warren, which we all know they were not,” declared Barrow.

3. Detroit Police are underestimating crime statistics.

Grade D: Recent media reports have uncovered that the city’s police may have been purposely underestimating murder stats. Bing’s response: No comment.

“Apparently this manipulation of murder statistics is fine with him because he has made no comment or attempt to address the problem and its potential legal ramifications for being untruthful to the FBI and other authorities that rely upon these statistics for funding formulas and abatement strategies; this is unacceptable for a leader of a major city,” stated Barrow.

4. Cobo Hall deal is – a giveaway of another valuable city jewel with Detroiters being relegated to observer status over its own convention center asset.

Grade F: While other major municipalities enjoy majority control of their city’s convention center when it is utilized in a joint operating authority (e.g. New York’s Javits Center), Interim Mayor Bing carries the water of outsiders vowing to approve a giveaway of our Cobo Hall with Detroiters retaining only two votes and with no guarantee of jobs for Detroiters or Detroit-based businesses.

“We don’t need an auctioneer to preside over a yard sale of our city’s assets; we need a Mayor to fight to rebuild Detroit, not acquiesce to its detractors,” declared Barrow.

5. No Personal Commitment to Detroit

Grade F: The Interim Mayor began his run for the city’s highest office by renting a small condo on East Jefferson just nine months before his election after living for decades in Southfield and Franklin, both Detroit suburbs. But, he slept every night in his multi-million dollar gated suburban home. Recently, he moved from his small East Jefferson apartment to a luxurious abode on Detroit’s far eastside, but is **still** renting.

“He shows no commitment to our city. It’s obvious that he sees himself as temporary as he still maintains his real home in the suburban City of Franklin, a travesty of leadership in a city that needs hands-on dedication to its problems, not drive-by management,” Barrow said.

6. His crisis team is still not vetted and Detroiters do not know what they are doing.

Grade F: First, he allowed an alleged drug gang consigliere onto his so-called “crisis team,” then his Communications Director resigned to go back to his city-contracted investment firm with no regard to potential conflicts of interest. The public still does not

know who is doing what to the City and still has not seen a final report on their vetting of his team for public office.

“The real crisis for Bing is not the city, it’s his secretiveness and obfuscation of the responsibilities of public office, first of which is transparency,” according to Barrow.

7. Stated he now wants to sell off Detroit’s Public Lighting Department.

Grade F: Bing has no report, proposal, assessment nor analysis of the impact on selling Public Lighting but he feels free to express his plan on national television.

“In a Barrow administration, Public Lighting will be the leader in revenue generating and selling new energy power by manufacturing solar panels, windmills and turbines, as well as supplying the needs of our departments and schools.”

8. Violated his promise of Change by appointing retreads from previous administrations with no new faces or changes to outdated fiscal policies.

Grade F: Bing brought back the very same Chief Financial Officer under Kilpatrick who has proven incapable of delivering audits that are now years late, jeopardizing state and federal funding for the city and its credit rating.

“As a former certified public accountant for nearly 35 years, my CFO will be working directly and daily under me to ensure our complete and total compliance. A Barrow administration will call for scraping the city’s budgeting process and immediately implementing a zero-based budget; making department heads accountable and requiring them to justify their budgets before a five-member panel of Detroit government financial experts,” declared Barrow.

For more information about Barrow’s platform, visit www.anewvisionfordetroit.com or telephone his campaign office at 9-BARROW.

ABOUT TOM BARROW

A lifelong Detroit, Barrow, 60, graduated from Detroit’s Annunciation Catholic High School in 1967 and Wayne State University in 1971 with a degree in accounting. He is a former certified public accountant and received his masters of business administration degree from Wayne State University in 1979. Barrow is married and lives on Detroit’s east side with his wife, teenage daughter and nine-year-old son.

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