

Detroit Renaissance Records

6 linear feet (6 SB)

1969-2002 (bulk 1971-2000)

Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Finding aid written by Maureen Simari on June 21, 2010. Revisions made by Gavin Strassel on May 22, 2014.

Accession Number: UR001581

Creator: Detroit Renaissance

Acquisition: Records were placed in the Reuther Library on March 3, 1994. Additional records were transferred from the records of Max Fisher on May 1, 2014.

Language: Material entirely in English.

Access: Papers are open for research.

Use: Refer to the Walter P. Reuther Library *Rules for Use of Archival Materials*. **Restrictions: Researchers may encounter records of a sensitive nature – personnel files, case records and those involving investigations, legal and other private matters. Privacy laws and restrictions imposed by the Library prohibit the use of names and other personal information which might identify an individual, except with written permission from the Director and/or the donor.**

Notes: Citation style: “Detroit Renaissance Records, Box [#], Folder [#], Walter P. Reuther Library, Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University”

Related Material: Photographs were transferred to the Reuther’s Audiovisual Department.

PLEASE NOTE: Material in this collection has been arranged by series ONLY. Folders are not arranged within each series – we have provided an inventory based on their original order. Subjects may be dispersed throughout several boxes within any given series.

Abstract

The City of Detroit had difficulty rebuilding after the riots of 1967, as its population dwindled, along with available capital and a supply of suitable housing, which suffered from neglect and abandonment. The Detroit Renaissance, a non-profit organization of business and community leaders, was formed in 1970 by the chief executives of the region's most influential employers to focus on the re-development of Detroit. Promoting urban renewal, this Southeast Michigan business roundtable created a series of programs helping to support virtually every major development project in Detroit, playing a major role in coordinating their funding. During the 2000's, the organization evolved and expanded its focus on regional issues while continuing its support for Detroit's redevelopment. In 2009 the roundtable was united with others across Michigan to form the group, Business Leaders for Michigan.

This collection mostly contains newspaper clippings on projects and topics related to urban renewal, riverfront development, and living in Detroit during the years of 1974-1993. The rest of the collection is made up of organizational records and materials given to executive members of Detroit Renaissance from 1970-2002. Record types from this section include formal reports, promotional brochures, meeting minutes from various committees within Detroit Renaissance, and budgetary materials. Topics covered include development within Detroit, a proposed riverfront sports arena, and discussions on how to stabilize the city financially. A portion of Detroit Renaissance projects contained in this collection are: Detroit Strategic Plan, Harmonie Park, Renaissance Center, Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, Detroit People Mover, and the Cobo Hall Expansion.

Important Subjects:

Detroit Strategic Plan
Neighborhoods—Michigan--Detroit
Renaissance Center (Detroit, Mich.)
Riverfront Development (Detroit, Mich.)
Transit
Urban housing

Arrangement

Folders are simply listed by their location within each box. They are not arranged, so any given subject may be dispersed throughout several boxes within the collection.

Box 1

- 1 Impressions of Detroit, 1985-1991 (1 of 3)
- 2 Impressions of Detroit, 1985-1991 (2 of 3)
- 3 Impressions of Detroit, 1985-1991 (3 of 3)
- 4 Housing, 1976-1991 (1 of 2)
- 5 Housing, 1976-1991 (2 of 2)
- 6 Economy, 1989-1992 (1 of 2)
- 7 Economy, 1989-1992 (2 of 2)
- 8 City Funding, 1988-1992
- 9 Urban Development, 1978-1991
- 10 Negative Detroit Images, 1990-1991
- 11 Art in Detroit, 1981-1991
- 12 Detroit Neighborhoods, 1991-1993
- 13 Transportation, 1979-1991 (1 of 2)
- 14 Transportation, 1979-1991 (2 of 2)
- 15 HUD Housing, 1987-1991
- 16 Newspaper Indexes
- 17 Business Development, 1987-1991
- 18 Housing, 1987-1992
- 19 Wayne State University, 1989-1990
- 20 Brush Park, 1983-1991
- 21 Cass Corridor, 1983-1992
- 22 New Detroit, 1988-1990
- 23 Detroit Schools, 1984-1991
- 24 Philadelphia
- 25 Riverfront Parks

Box 2

- 1 Science Center
- 2 Sports Commission (Detroit)
- 3 Washington D.C.
- 4 St. Louis
- 5 Race Concern, 1986-1992 (1 of 2)
- 6 Race Concern, 1986-1992 (2 of 2)
- 7 People Mover
- 8 Population
- 9 Pittsburgh, 1983-1992 (1 of 2)
- 10 Pittsburgh, 1983-1992 (2 of 2)
- 11 McCabe, Robert E.
- 12 Medical Center
- 13 Michigan Opera Theatre, 1988-1990
- 14 Nightclubs (Detroit)
- 15 Office Buildings, 1989-1992 (1 of 2)
- 16 Office Buildings, 1989-1992 (1 of 2)
- 17 Developments Outside of Michigan, 1983-1991
- 18 Parades
- 19 Parking Garages
- 20 Hudson's, 1979-1993 (1 of 2)
- 21 Hudson's, 1979-1993 (2 of 2)
- 22 Detroiters at Heart
- 23 Detroit Image Fireworks, 1991-1992
- 24 Monuments
- 25 Music Hall
- 26 New Center
- 27 Theaters, 1979-1993 (1 of 2)
- 28 Theaters, 1979-1993 (2 of 2)
- 29 Fox Theater

Box 3

- 1 New York
- 2 Cleveland
- 3 Dallas
- 4 Cities General
- 5 Foreign Cities
- 6 Chicago
- 7 Boston
- 8 Atlanta
- 9 Mayor Young

- 10 Washington Boulevard
- 11 Urban Sprawl
- 12 Urban Revitalization (General)
- 13 University of Detroit, 1985-1990
- 14 Town Within A City
- 15 Trappers Alley Greektown
- 16 Business Detroit
- 17 Detroit Strategic Plan, 1985-1993 (1 of 2)
- 18 Detroit Strategic Plan, 1985-1993 (2 of 2)
- 19 Detroit Renaissance Center, 1974-1992 (1 of 2)
- 20 Detroit Renaissance Center, 1974-1992 (2 of 2)
- 21 Historic Preservation

Box 4

- 1 Riverfront Development, 1979-1993 (1 of 3)
- 2 Riverfront Development, 1979-1993 (2 of 3)
- 3 Riverfront Development, 1979-1993 (3 of 3)
- 4 Harmonie Park, 1983-1993
- 5 Hotels
- 6 Detroit Suburbs Development
- 7 Retail
- 8 Restaurants
- 9 Renovated Buildings
- 10 Airports
- 11 Alliance for a Safer Greater Detroit
- 12 Architects
- 13 Barden Summit Detroit Economic Commission
- 14 Belle Isle
- 15 Business People
- 16 Cadillac Center
- 17 Chamber of Commerce
- 18 Chrysler Corporation
- 19 Cobo Hall
- 20 Cultural Center, 1979-1991
- 21 Detroit Budget Commission
- 22 Detroit City Council, 1992-1993
- 23 Casinos, 1988

Box 5

- 1 Correspondence, 1977-2004 (1 of 3)
- 2 Correspondence, 1977-2004 (2 of 3)
- 3 Correspondence, 1977-2004 (3 of 3)
- 4 Balance sheets, 1979-1983
- 5 Detroit Renaissance Special Events Committee meeting minutes, 1979 August 15
- 6 Resources Management Committee meeting minutes, 1978 November 20
- 7 Detroit Renaissance Development Projects Committee, 1982-1992
- 8 Citizens Research Council of Michigan meeting, 1981 June 17
- 9 Detroit Economic Growth Corporation meetings, 2001 January-August
- 10 Meeting minutes, 1970s
- 11 Detroit Renaissance Executive Committee packets, 1994-1995 (1 of 3)
- 12 Detroit Renaissance Executive Committee packets, 1994-1995 (2 of 3)
- 13 Detroit Renaissance Executive Committee packets, 1994-1995 (3 of 3)
- 14 Detroit Renaissance Executive Committee packets, 1998-1999 (1 of 5)
- 15 Detroit Renaissance Executive Committee packets, 1998-1999 (2 of 5)
- 16 Detroit Renaissance Executive Committee packets, 1998-1999 (3 of 5)
- 17 Detroit Renaissance Executive Committee packets, 1998-1999 (4 of 5)
- 18 Detroit Renaissance Executive Committee packets, 1998-1999 (5 of 5)
- 19 Detroit Renaissance Executive Committee packets, 2000 (1 of 3)
- 20 Detroit Renaissance Executive Committee packets, 2000 (2 of 3)
- 21 Detroit Renaissance Executive Committee packets, 2000 (3 of 3)
- 22 Riverfront stadium; Development financing, 1971 March
- 23 Riverfront stadium; Stadium Development Corporation articles of incorporation, undated
- 24 Riverfront stadium; A Brief, Chronological History of the Detroit Riverfront Stadium, 1974 June
- 25 Riverfront stadium; Proposed Plan for Construction and Financing of a Wayne County Stadium, 1971 September 15
- 26 Riverfront stadium; A Multi-Purpose Domed Stadium for Downtown Detroit booklet, 1970 March 20
- 27 Riverfront stadium; Newspaper clippings, 1970-1973
- 28 Riverfront stadium; The Downtown Detroit Stadium report, 1970 November 20

- 29 Riverfront stadium; Detroit Lions, 1969-1970
- 30 Riverfront stadium; Feasibility study, 1970 August
- 31 Riverfront stadium; Baseball site evaluation, 1970-1972
- 32 Riverfront stadium; Riverfront stadiums in other cities, 1970s
- 33 Riverfront stadium; Planning images, undated
- 34 Riverfront stadium; Architectural blueprints, 1971
- 35 Chamber of Commerce annual report, 1969-1979
- 36 Detroit Image & Attitude study, 1971 May (1 of 2)
- 37 Detroit Image & Attitude study, 1971 May (2 of 2)
- 38 Summary of revitalization activities, [1971]

Box 6

- 1 Detroit Renaissance three-year reports, 1973-1979
- 2 Public transportation report, 1974 July 24
- 3 Moving Detroit Forward: A Plan for Urban Economic Revitalization, 1975 April
- 4 Moving Detroit Forward: A Plan for Urban Economic Revitalization, 1975 April
- 5 Moving Detroit Forward: A Plan for Urban Economic Revitalization, 1977 June (1 of 3)
- 6 Moving Detroit Forward: A Plan for Urban Economic Revitalization, 1977 June (2 of 3)
- 7 Moving Detroit Forward: A Plan for Urban Economic Revitalization, 1977 June (3 of 3)
- 8 Moving Detroit Forward: The Second Decade, undated
- 9 Report on examination of financial statements, 1976
- 10 Regional Goal Setting, 1976
- 11 Southeastern Michigan Transit Authority transit alternatives, [1977]
- 12 Economic Development Delivery Systems Options, 1977 April 15
- 13 Detroit's Importance to non-Residents: A Case of Self-Interest, 1979 March
- 14 A Physical Development Program for the Grand Circus Park Development Association, 1979 October
- 15 Near East Riverfront Development Plan draft, 1982 January 1
- 16 Strategic Planning Project - Phase II, 1986 March
- 17 Woodward Ave charrette packet, 1994
- 18 Major Detroit Development Initiatives, 1999 January 20
- 19 People, Land, and Economic Activity in Southeast Michigan, 2001 February
- 20 Detroit Orientation Program Institute for Detroit Renaissance, 2001 March 2
- 21 Investment measures and highlights, 2001 May
- 22 Financing Downtown Housing Challenge report, 2002 February
- 23 Campus Martius Park packet, 2002 May
- 24 Detroit's Riverfront Development packet, undated
- 25 Report of the Regional/Urban Assistance Team, undated
- 26 Renaissance Center booklet, undated
- 27 Art Center map, undated
- 28 New Center, booklets and brochure, 1982-1983
- 29 Detroit: City of Neighborhoods booklet, 1978 July
- 30 Downtown Detroit Development brochure, 1979
- 31 Newspaper clippings, 1990s