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Panel suggests ways to make Detroit world-class city

Cindy Rodriguez / The Detroit News

How can Detroit become a thriving world class city?

A diverse panel of 30-somethings who spoke at Wayne State University this morning came up with these suggestions:

- * The state should invest more in education and less in prisons.
- * Change mandatory sentencing laws that disproportionately target poor people.
- * Cap suburban sprawl.
- * Detroit should welcome immigrants, and require the police and other city employees to live in the city.

"College graduates want to live in culturally diverse areas," said Dalton Roberson, an associate who works at nonprofit New Detroit, citing research by renowned urban sociologist Richard Florida.

The Detroit News was one of several sponsors of the panel discussion titled "Movin' the D Forward."

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