

★ Roll Call Number

Agenda Item Number
55B

.....
Date July 28, 2008

Communication from Coalition of South Side Neighborhood Associations.

Moved by _____ to receive and file comments.

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
COWNIE				
COLEMAN				
KIERNAN				
HENSLEY				
MAHAFFEY				
MEYER				
VLASSIS				
TOTAL				
MOTION CARRIED			APPROVED	
_____ Mayor				

CERTIFICATE

I, DIANE RAUH, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

_____ City Clerk



***Coalition of South Side
Neighborhood Associations***

210 E Bundy Ave., Des Moines, IA 50315

July 25, 2008

The Honorable Frank Cownie
City of Des Moines
400 Robert D. Ray Dr
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Honorable Mayor Cownie:

It has come to the attention of this coalition of neighborhoods that a mobile home park at 3415 SE 14th St may be available for sale. This mobile home park currently has more than seven (7) abandoned and nuisance trailers, and other trailers in the park are in deteriorating condition. This mobile home park epitomizes some of the major problems with blight and nuisance conditions along SE 14th, and it contributes heavily to the poor attitudes and impressions that City residents and visitors have of this traffic corridor.

I am also aware that the City of Des Moines has a 28E agreement with the Neighborhood Development Corporation (NDC), to provide up to \$1 million per year, over a five-year period, for use by the NDC to initiate projects to create new and rehabilitated buildings for housing, small businesses and job creation, in order to improve deteriorated neighborhoods.

This Coalition formally requests that the City of Des Moines and NDC work together to acquire this property, remove the nuisance trailers, provide sufficient time for other residents to move, and ultimately to raze the remaining structures and position this site for commercial or residential redevelopment.

City officials should be more than aware that neighborhood leaders and citizens want to see a greater focus on revitalization along SE 14th St., as this is one of the major entrances to our City, the State Capitol Grounds, and will be the connection to the City's remaining area of growth to the south. If we do not work to revitalize this area, we will continue to see further empty storefronts and vacant businesses, lack of reinvestment, and ultimately, a reduction in the character and quality of our neighborhoods and City.

On behalf of the below listed neighborhood associations, I look forward to your response and action on this request.

Sincerely,

Mel Pins
Chair - CSSNA

*Columbus/McKinley ✦ Easter Lake ✦ Ewing Woods/Evergreen ✦ Hillsboro
Indianola Hills ✦ Magnolia Park ✦ Pioneer Park ✦ Somerset ✦ South Park*