



# NEWS RELEASE

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**CITY COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY PASSED MAYOR KILPATRICK'S  
PROPOSED CHANGES TO TENANT EVICTION ORDINANCE**

*Changes will assist in efforts to reduce blight in Detroit neighborhoods*

**DETROIT, September 14, 2006**—Detroit City Council yesterday voted 9-0 to accept changes to Section 22-2-84 city code proposed by Mayor Kwame M. Kilpatrick and his Illegal Dumping Taskforce regarding tenant evictions.

For decades, tenant evictions have contributed to the blight of Detroit neighborhoods because the old process called for tenant belongings to be placed at the curb when evicted by the court. This practice generally invited illegal dumping and creates blight for nearby homes.

The ordinance amendments accepted yesterday by Council requires the owner or operator of a property to provide a large container, accessible from the side, for disposal of the tenant's personal property when an eviction is to occur. The container must be removed within 48 hours of the eviction.

"Landlords refusing to follow the ordinance amendments will receive a blight violation, said Dr. Vincent Nathan, Director of the Department of Environmental Affairs. "The approval of the ordinance amendments will help us to make our neighborhoods cleaner in the NEXT Detroit."

In May, the Mayor and members of the Taskforce announced their plan to address issues they found to be essential in the City's fight against illegal dumping, which included tenant evictions.

The Kilpatrick Administration is thankful for the leadership of Councilwoman Martha Reeves because she introduced the proposed changes to the ordinance.

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