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## Councilman Troy Nash Passes Progressive Legislation to Benefit Inner City Neighborhoods

Councilman Troy Nash has announced that legislation was passed by the Kansas City Council which will give a green light to a new Land Trust Pilot Project. The much needed pilot project is being initiated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> District because it has more vacant lots than any other council district in the city; more than 1000 vacant properties or about one third of the total. The Project will be coordinated by the City's Parks and Recreation Department which is being charged with coordinating the overall reduction in Land Trust property inventory. This project will bring cleanup and

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## Councilman Troy Nash Passes Progressive Legislation

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maintenance assistance to these vacant lots the effects of which will help to reduce other problems such as overgrown weeds and overall neighborhood conditions in often neglected areas of the inner city.

With the assistance of the City Manager, the legislation was formulated in such a fashion that will allow for a 3

year strategic plan to reduce the total number of vacant lots and thereby reduce the funding for the moving and maintenance of these lots. Additionally, these reductions should assist in the betterment of neighborhoods, reduce potential criminal activities, and create job opportunities in the community as additional funds will be directed toward the moving and maintenance of these lots for the next three years until the lot number is reduced.

The project will allow neighborhoods to, in essence, purchase the property by way of the neighborhoods commitment to mow and maintain the vacant lot. The

from 120,000 to 200,00 per season for three years in exchange for the upkeep of the property by the neighborhood. Once the project is complete the lots will be reassigned to the neighborhood for final sale.

Councilman Nash was very pleased with the passage of the legislation and stated that, "it is another encouraging step toward progress. It certainly should not have taken a tragedy such as this to create the program, but the additional funding will be a huge benefit to neighborhoods in the 3<sup>rd</sup> District. I have full faith in the neighborhood residents and their leaders to come together to take every advantage of this opportunity.

Additionally, and equally as vital to the progress and development of the inner city, a new law aimed at illegal salvage yards was introduced by Kansas City Councilman Troy Nash, 3<sup>rd</sup> District-at-Large. The City Council passed this legislation which

will begin the process of removing abandoned cars from illegal salvage yards. For the last several years, in order for the city to remove abandoned

cars from private property, it would have to contact the owner, trace the vehicle identification number, and then wait 30 days to dispose of the car. It was a cumbersome and time consuming process that allowed blight and decay to exist.

The new legislation will allow the city to remove abandoned vehicles from illegal salvage yards and sell the cars for scrap without going through a long process that often resulted in the cars ending up in the same place.

"This new law will remove these cars that cause blight and bring down property values in our community. It is one additional tool that we now have in the continued effort to take back our community and clean up our neighborhoods. Residents deserve to live in a clean and safe environment.

This new legislation will assist in making this happen," said Nash.