



EDITORIAL

Nash and Trash

Kudos for Kansas City's 3rd District-at-Large Councilman Troy Nash who is keeping his campaign promise of helping citizens in the 3rd District address the issue of "trash" in their neighborhoods.

Nash on Tuesday announced that he will host a meeting (today) Thursday, May 20 from 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. at the Gem Theater to "talk trash." Citizens who live in the 3rd District ought to turn out in large numbers to voice their concerns and support Nash as he tries to bring the entities together who can help solve some of the city's unsightly "trash" problems.

But, besides discussing the issue of illegal dumping, just as unsightly is the issue of illegal drug activity that takes place in houses that should be condemned as trash in some of our neighborhoods.

If we drive down Wornall Road west of Troost and cruise the neighborhoods surrounding the Plaza, we can witness a successful effort brought about by neighborhood citizens voicing their concerns to their elected representatives and demanding action. But they come with a track record. One that reflects a sense of self-pride by homeowners themselves who work hard to take care of their homes and their neighborhoods.

In order for the city's 3rd District or any other district that is bothered with "trash" problems to improve its conditions, it must first show some self-pride, and many neighborhoods in the 3rd District have done that. Still, much remains out of their control when it comes to vacant lots and houses, and unsafe and suspi-

Editorial



BY
**DENISE
JORDON**
MANAGING
EDITOR

ous dwellings and buildings that city officials have let stand for too long. Unfortunately, owners of publicly subsidized housing dwellings are also sometimes part of the larger problem over which neighborhoods have no control. With this in mind, it is no wonder some individuals think they can use the 3rd District as an illegal dumping ground for trash. I doubt they would have the nerve to even flick a cigarette butt on a sidewalk west of Troost.

Citizens who live in the 3rd district could have abandoned their neighborhoods long ago like many other people did who took flight farther south and west.

But many 3rd District residents remained and have done their best to maintain their homes and neighborhoods. They deserve better attention from City Hall and their elected representatives. Nash has opened the door for them. Hopefully he will be joined by 3rd District councilwoman Mary Williams-Neal, and Mayor Kay Barnes newly appointed neighborhood ombudsman.