

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION – LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: 2007 PROPOSED BUDGET –
DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES**

1. Department activities include:
 - Neighborhood Services System database to track complaints and violations *(Page 2)*
 - Nuisance Vehicles *(Page 2)*
 - Chronic Nuisance Premises *(Page 3)*
2. In the 2007 Proposed Budget, there are 228 authorized positions, an increase of 4, 1.8% from the 2006 Budget of 224. *(Pages 3 and 4)*
3. The 2007 Proposed Budget for Operating Expenditures is \$770,155, an increase of \$52,880, 7.4%, from the \$717,275 funded in the 2006 Budget. *(Page 4)*
4. The 2007 Proposed Budget for Additional Equipment provides \$59,800, -11.4%, from the 2006 Budget of \$67,000. *(Page 4)*
5. In the 2007 Proposed Budget, Special Funds provide \$1,724,000, a decrease of \$166,000, -8.8%, from the \$1,890,000 in the 2006 Budget. These line items include funding for the Community Sanitation Fund, the Milwaukee Area Domestic Animal Control Commission and Anderson Lake Tower Building. *(Page 5)*
6. The 2007 Proposed Budget provides an estimate of \$2,015,077 in grant funding, an increase of \$50,407, 2.6%, from the 2006 Budget funding of \$1,964,670. *(Page 6)*
7. Estimated revenue in the 2007 Proposed Budget is \$13,507,200, an increase of \$808,300, 6.4% more than the 2006 projection of \$12,698,000. *(Pages 6 and 7)*
8. Special Purpose Accounts are funded at \$1,917,735 in the 2007 Proposed Budget, a decrease of \$125,000, -6.1% from the \$2,042,735 in the 2006 Budget. The accounts include Graffiti Abatement, Maintenance/Services, Razing Vacant Buildings, and Neighborhood Clean and Green Initiative and the new, Vacant Lot Maintenance. *(Pages 7, 8, 9 and 10)*

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION – LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

2006 Proposed Budget Summary: Department of Neighborhood Services

	2005 ACTUAL	2006 BUDGET	% CHG	2007 PROPOSED	% CHG
Operating	\$13,944,852	\$14,125,791	1.3%	\$13,809,436	-2.2%
O&M Positions	158.11	167.58	6.0%	167.58	0%
Non-O&M Positions	24.97	32.80	31.2%	39	18.9%
Positions	227	224	-1.3%	228	1.8%

Mission: *To enhance Milwaukee's competitive advantage as a vibrant urban community. To work in cooperation with public and private partnerships and neighborhood residents to promote investment and improve the physical, environmental and aesthetic conditions of Milwaukee's neighborhoods.*

Pertinent Historical Information

1. The number of authorized positions for DNS has decreased by 64 positions, from 288 in 2002 to 224 in 2006, a decrease of 22.2%.
2. In 2001, DNS along with DPW-Sanitation section received \$70,000 through the Neighborhood Cleanup Initiative to target one area in each aldermanic district to intensify litter clean up and other litter nuisance situations.
3. In 2002, DNS received \$2.9 million for capital improvements for the Anderson Building and the 10th floor of the Municipal Building.
4. A new Community Development Block Grant allocation in the 2003 Budget, Proactive Rat Infestation Abatement, provided \$51,501 for salaries, fringe, supplies and equipment for concentrated rat abatement in the Neighborhood Strategic Planning Areas.
5. In July 2003, 7 positions located in Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP) staff were transferred from DCD to DNS. This transfer confirmed Council action taken earlier in the year to move these positions to DNS to remove any potential conflict between DCD and NIDC. NIP oversees the contractor home rehabilitation activities for low and very low-income residents.
6. In the 2003 Budget, the Code Compliance Program was changed to eliminate interior code inspections outside of the designated areas. An ordinance consolidated the city's certificate of code of compliance (s. 200-52) and certificate for exterior code compliance (s. 200-55) programs. Anyone purchasing a one or 2-family dwelling in any of the city's 6 designated re-investment areas is required to obtain a certificate of code compliance, (exterior). Outside of the 6 designated reinvestment areas, a purchase of a one or 2-family dwelling triggers the need for a certificate if the dwelling is to be rented.
7. An Office Assistant II was added in the 2005 Budget to assist in the administration of property recording for residential and commercial buildings. The cost of the position was offset by an increase in the fee imposed for property owners not recording their properties in a timely manner.

8. In the 2005 Budget, 3 additional personnel, 1 Plumbing Inspector Assistant Supervisor, 1 Plumbing Inspector II and 1 Office Assistant III, were added to support the expanded commercial cross connection inspection program for the Water Works.
9. The Vacant Lot Maintenance Special Purpose Account was established in the 2006 Budget. The account pays for the tax-levy supported costs of maintenance for city owned vacant lots, which includes grass cutting, snow, trash and debris removal. This service had been funded as a grant by CDBG. Federal guidelines mandates that grant funds can only be used for maintenance activities following the acquisition of property for a maximum of first three years.
10. The 2006 Budget restored 2 Nuisance Control Office II positions that were scheduled for elimination, added 1 Office Assistant III position to assist in the administration of the residential and commercial recording enforcement fee and added 3 additional personnel to the expanded commercial cross connection inspection program, 2 Plumbing Inspector II and 1 Office Assistant II.

DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

Neighborhood Services System - Neighborhood Services System is a common database developed and designed to track multiple types of property complaints and violations, especially used for customer service requests. By entering an address in the system, information related to all inspections conducted by the department, and permits and complaints is available.

The department's web site links not only the computerized information but also all property Internet accessible information available in the City. The system received over 500,000 lookups in the first year, 1999. With a system upgrade, the network is more reliable and faster. Presently, the department is converting the system to a Windows-based application. Statistics for DNS complaints include:

Year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006 (thru 8/16)
Total	33,332	34,030	30,054	31,638	31,338	34,253	22,489

The top complaints are garbage, graffiti, exterior, interior, vehicles, zoning, and animal.

Nuisance Vehicles - In 1999, the department revised procedures and made recommendations to change code provisions that resulted in streamlining the nuisance vehicle procedure and expanding the scope of conditions that resulted in a vehicle being towed. As a result, the amount of time for removing a vehicle was reduced from an average of 90 days to 20 days. In 2006, the average time to remove a nuisance vehicle was reduced to 8 days. 75% of the vehicles were brought into compliance without the need for further action.

Since 2003, the decrease in the number of vehicle orders is due more to citizens complying with the program and taking appropriate actions. The nuisance orders issued and vehicles towed include:

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006 (thru 7/31)
Orders Issued	7,659	5,663	3,245	2,752	1593
Vehicles towed by City	816	443	240	242	67

Chronic Nuisance Property Code – This is a cooperative effort between the Milwaukee Police Department and DNS pursuant to legislation enacted by the Common Council in February 2001 to assess charges against premises which require excess police services. The owner of a premise which generates 3 or more calls in a 30-day period for any of 25 enumerated nuisance activities, (littering, prostitution, excessive noise, public drinking, etc.) is notified of such activities by the Police Department and is required to respond with a written plan to abate the nuisance activities. Premises includes all types of property – residential, commercial, and industrial, and includes both taxable and tax exempt properties. If, after submission of the plan, nuisance activities continue, the Police Department may calculate the cost of enforcement for these confirmed activities, and DNS charges the premise owner for the costs of enforcement, including administrative costs. The primary purpose of the program is to motivate property owners to control nuisance behaviors at and on their properties.

In 2004, more than 208 initial letters were sent to property owners. In 2005, 223 initial letters were sent and 300 letters have been issued as of 8/16/06.

Aldermen in some districts have resolved some problems by calling the owner of a property where nuisance behaviors were occurring and explaining the code and its consequences to the owner.

2007 ISSUES AND PROPOSED CHANGES

PERSONNEL

In the 2007 Proposed Budget, 228 positions are authorized, an increase of 4, 1.8% from the 2006 Budget of 224. For 2007, the full-time equivalent (FTE) O&M supported positions, is projected at 167.58 FTEs, the same as 2006, and there will be 39.0 non-O&M FTE funded positions, an increase of 6.20, 18.9%, from the 32.80 non-O&M positions funded in 2006.

As of September 30, 2006, there are 18 vacancies, 8.0%, out of 224 authorized positions. These include:

TITLE	POS	DATE VACANT
<i>Authorized To Fill By Finance & Personnel</i>		
Code Enforcement Inspector II, SG541	1	2/10/06
Customer Service Rep. II, SG435	1	5/19/06
Environmental Hygienist, SG555	1	9/9/06
Code Enforcement Intern, SG529	3	7/19/03, 8/16/03, 2/28/04, CDBG
<i>Not Authorized To Fill</i>		
Building Construction Inspector II, SG589	1	9/30/06
Code Enforcement Inspector II, SG541	3	6/3/06, 7/14/06, 8/15/06
Nuisance Control Officer II, SG516	1	6/17/06
Plumbing Inspector II, SG788	1	9/22/06
Administrative Specialist Sr. SG530 (0.5FTE)	1	9/20/02, CDBG
Code Enforcement Intern, SG529	4	2/26/05, 4/8/06, 6/3/06, 6/3/06 CDBG
Special Enforcement Inspector, SG572	1	9/23/06, CDBG
Total	18	

The following summarizes the position changes contained in the 2007 Proposed Budget for DNS:

TITLE	POS	REASON
Neighborhood Services Oper. Mgr., SG13	-	Reclassified from Chief Oper. Ofcr., SG11
Plumbing Inspector II, SG788	3.0	Added for cross connection inspections
Special Compliance Inspector, SG551	-3.0	Reclassified to Code Enf Insp II & Prog. Asst. II
Code Enforcement Inspector II, SG541	2.0	Reclassified from Special Compliance Inspector
Program Assistant II, SG530	1.0	Reclassified from Special Compliance Inspector
Code Enforcement Asst. Supv., SG006	-	From Graffiti & Receivership to Targeted Enfnt.
Code Enforcement Intern, SG529 (O.5 FTE)	-	From Graffiti & Receivership to Targeted Enfnt
Grant Monitor, SG006	-	From Graffiti & Receivership to Targeted Enfnt
Office Assistant II, SG410 (0.5 FTE)		From Immediate Clean Up to Targeted Enfnt
Housing Rehabilitation Coord. SG005	1.0	New position in NIP.
TOTAL	4.0	

Changes

In the 2007 Proposed Budget, 3 additional Plumbing Inspector II will be added to support the expanded commercial cross connection inspection program for the Water Works. The program is designed to prevent the pollution and contamination of the city's drinking water. Plumbing Inspectors will inspect the cross connections in commercial and industrial buildings when new plumbing permits are issued. DNS added 3 personnel in 2005, 3 in 2006, and is expected to gradually increase staff in 2007 to inspect all non-residential buildings every 10 years. Water Works reimburses DNS for all costs associated with this program.

The position of Housing Rehabilitation was added to the Neighborhood Improvement Program in order to meet audit recommendations. The position, funded through CDBG, will handle preparing construction specifications and cost estimates for HOME rehab projects, which includes inspecting the property for interior and exterior code violations. When the work is completed, it would be reviewed for thoroughness before the contractor is paid.

LINE ITEMS

The 2007 Proposed Budget for Operating Expenditures is \$770,155, an increase of \$52,880, 7.4%, from the \$717,275 funded in the 2006 Budget. The major items include:

1. General Office Expense, \$190,500, an increase of \$16,250, 9.3%% from the 2006 Budget of \$174,000. This projected increase is due to an increase of office supplies and materials.
2. Professional Services, \$54,075, an increase of \$9,575, 21.4% from the 2006 Budget of \$44,500. This reflects the on-going increase in cost of obtaining proper service on owners of property who are summoned to Municipal Court for failure to comply with Department orders to correct conditions.

The 2007 Proposed Budget for Additional Equipment provides \$59,800, a decrease of \$7,700, -11.4%, from the 2006 Budget of \$67,500. This account handles software and hardware replacements for workstations, printers, and network components.

SPECIAL FUNDS

In the 2007 Proposed Budget, Special Funds provide \$1,724,000, a decrease of \$166,000, -8.8%, from the \$1,890,000 in the 2006 Budget.

Item	2005 Actual	2006 Budget	2007 Proposed	% Change
Community Sanitation	\$297,894	\$290,000	\$30,000	-90.0%
MADACC	\$1,451,841	\$1,475,000	\$1,534,000	4.0%
Anderson Lake Tower	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$160,000	28.0%
Total	\$1,874,735	\$1,890,000	\$1,724,000	-8.8%

1. Community Sanitation Fund, \$30,000, a decrease of \$260,000, 90%, from the \$290,000 provided in the 2006 Budget. In the past, this account was utilized to abate litter nuisance in garbage clean-up, litter and directed special pickup on privately owned properties after the owners fail to clean up the problem after receipt of an order and a subsequent compliance period.

In 2007, \$10,000 in funding will support neighborhood clean-up efforts that was previously in the Neighborhood Clean and Green Initiative Special Purpose Account.

And additional \$20,000 funding is targeted to support the Proactive Rat Infestation Abatement CDBG funds, which will decrease in 2007 from \$38,844 provided in 2006 to \$22,300 projected in the 2007 Budget. (Please see page 7 for CDGB funding.)

The DNS efforts in nuisance garbage abatement through private contractors, previously funded through this account, will transfer to DPW-Sanitation for nuisance garbage, including clean-up on vacant lots. DNS will refer all unabated nuisance garbage abatement violations to DPW.

2. MADACC Animal Pound Contract, \$1,534,000, an increase of \$59,000, 4.0%, from \$1,475,000 provided in the 2006 Budget. The funding supports a contract with the Milwaukee Area Domestic Animal Control Commission (MADACC). MADACC is responsible for control of stray domestic animals. The City through DNS is one of 16 Milwaukee County communities that have a contract with MADACC. The increase is due to an increase in costs, 4%. Animals impounded for the City include:

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006*
Animals Impounded	10,123	10,612	10,016	8,750	4,972

* Through July 31

DNS continues to investigate domestic animal bites and enforce all domestic animal control ordinances. The statistics of domestic animal bites investigated by the department include:

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Bites Investigates	611	555	589	633	366

* Through August 17

3. Anderson Lake Tower, \$160,000, an increase of \$35,000, 28%, from the \$125,000 provided in the 2006 Budget. The funding is allocated for the maintenance costs at the Anderson Lake Tower building. The costs are for the custodial service, boiler maintenance, snow removal, floor mats, window washing, utilities and water. The increase is due to increase of gas and electricity costs.

GRANTS

As in previous years, all of the requested grant funding is from CDBG. The 2007 Proposed Budget provides an estimate of \$2,015,077 in grant funding, an increase of \$50,407, 2.6%, from the 2006 Budget funding of \$1,964,670, (does not include \$50,000 in reprogramming funds). The funding is for salaries and wages, fringe benefits, supplies and equipment.

The following chart shows funding amounts from CDBG:

Item	2005 Budget	2006 Budget	2007 Proposed
Graffiti	\$48,550	\$48,500	\$53,700
Receivership	\$74,208	\$80,473	\$80,473
Code Enforcement Intern*	\$208,441	\$0	\$0
Com. Advocates/Landlord Tenant Compliance	\$47,550	\$47,550	\$47,550
Property Management, Landlord Training***	\$221,518	\$177,785	\$159,083
Vacant Lot Maintenance	\$840,520	\$218,755	\$218,755
Demolition	\$348,978	\$323,978	\$323,978
Neighborhood Clean-up	\$74,208	\$62,105	\$62,105
Code Enforcement Program Targeted**	\$373,017	\$503,468	\$503,468
Proactive Rat Infestation Abatement	\$40,874	\$38,444	\$22,300
Neighborhood Improvement Program	\$435,000	\$463,612	\$543,665
Total	\$2,712,864	\$1,964,670	\$2,015,077

* In 2006, funded through Targeted Enforcement. ** Includes funding for Code Enforcement Interns.

*** Property Management, Landlord Training received an additional \$50,000 in reprogramming funds for 2006.

- In the 2007 Proposed Budget, Property Management, Landlord Training is provided \$159,083, a decrease of \$18,702, -10.5%, from the 2006 Budget of \$177,785. Attendance for the sessions has increased from year to year. The department offers 23 sessions a year, and the yearly average per session since 2004 is:

Year	2004	2005	2006
Average per session	55	62	70

With a decrease in funding for the programs, the department may have to reduce the number of sessions, and increase the size of the sessions.

- For Vacant Lot Maintenance, the 2007 Proposed Budget funding of \$230,430 is restricted to city-owned lots that were acquired within the last 3 years.

Beginning in 2006, CDBG funding is only allowed to maintain a vacant lot for no more than 3 years after acquisition through a federal mandate. With the maintenance of approximately 2,600 vacant lots, a new Special Purpose Account was created to fund the maintenance of city-owned vacant lots that are more than 3 years old. (See Special Purpose Accounts, page 8.)

REVENUE

The following chart shows the 2007 expected revenues for DNS. According to the Comptroller's Office, for 2007, 12.3 % of total revenue is derived from intergovernmental aids. Intergovernmental aid revenue is from fire insurance premiums.

Category	2005 Actual	2006 Estimate	2007 Proposed	% Chg
Charges for Services	\$ 7,724,010	\$ 6,729,000	\$7,001,000	4.0%
Licenses and Permits	\$ 6,691,624	\$ 5,058,900	5,481,200	8.3%
Intergovernmental Aids	\$ 892,618	\$ 911,000	1,025,000	12.3%
Total	\$15,308,252	\$12,698,900	\$13,507,200	6.4%

Estimated revenue in the 2007 Proposed Budget is \$13,507,200, an increase of \$808,300, 6.4% more than the 2006 projection of \$12,698,000. In licenses and permits, an increase of \$422,300, 8.3%, is due to increase revenue in building permits, building code compliance and electrical permits.

SPECIAL PURPOSE ACCOUNTS

Special Purposes Accounts are funded at \$1, 917,735 in the 2007 Proposed Budget, a decrease of \$125,000, - 6.1% from the \$2,042,735 in the 2006 Budget. The accounts include the Graffiti Abatement Fund, the Maintenance/Services, Razing Vacant Buildings, and Neighborhood Clean and Green Initiative and Vacant Lot Maintenance fund.

Accounts	2005 Actual	2006 Budget	2007 Proposed	% Change
Graffiti Abatement	\$145,000	\$95,000	\$95,000	0%
Maintenance of Essential Services	60,559	75,000	75,000	0%
Neighborhood Clean and Green Initiative	10,000	10,000	0	-100.0%
Razing Vacant Buildings	1,203,168	1,151,000	1,151,000	0%
Vacant Lot Maintenance	0	711,735	596,735	-16.2%
Total	\$1,418,727	\$2,042,735	\$1,917,735	-6.1%

1. Maintenance of Essential Services, \$75,000, is the same funding level as 2006. This account was established in 1995 to provide the department with funding needed to make repairs or provide needed maintenance of essential equipment (such as heating, electrical or sanitary facilities) whose failure would constitute a substantial threat to the health and safety to citizens per section 200-21 of the Milwaukee Code. DNS can make those repairs only after a landlord has been informed of the conditions and does not correct them. The cost of the repairs is charged to the owner and placed on the owner's tax bill. A revenue estimate offsets the appropriation.

	10/1/04 – 9/30/05	10/1/05– 8/15/06
Plumbing	13 jobs, \$32,600	4 jobs, \$5,085
Heating	11 jobs, \$18,941	4 jobs, \$3,970
Electrical	4 jobs, \$ 7,555	<i>Not used.</i>

2. Graffiti Abatement Fund, \$95,000, is the same funding level as 2006. The account funds several approaches to decrease the proliferation of graffiti. The funds pay for graffiti removal through individual business matching grants to business associations and DNS ordered abatement. The operating expenses include brochures, postage and paint brushes.

The activity in the graffiti abatement fund for 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 (*through July*) is:

Removal Requests	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
DNS Jobs	1,991	2,020	2,767	3,046	2,121
Cost	\$96,240	\$112,402	\$113,026	\$115,041	\$60,090

For 2005 and 2006 through July 2006, the cases referred for graffiti removal were 4,025 and 3,069 respectively. The number of instances that graffiti was ordered removed was 3,046 for 2005 and 2,121 for 2006. With the decrease of funding for 2006, \$95,000, and the same amount proposed for 2007, the department will not be able to order graffiti removal at the same level as 2005.

The scheduled expenditures for the 2007 Graffiti Abatement special purpose account funding is:

City-Wide Area Abatement	\$ 49,000
Matching Individual Business	\$ 34,000
Operating Expenses	\$ 12,000
Total	\$ 95,000

3. Neighborhood Clean and Green Initiative, \$0 – In the 2007 Proposed Budget, this SPA will be eliminated and the \$10,000 is targeted for the Community Sanitation Fund under Special Funds. The program began in 2000, as Neighborhood Cleanup Initiative. DNS worked with the Sanitation Section of DPW, and developed and assisted in the Directed Special Pick-up. The program doubled the amount of debris, trash and garbage collected in a test area.

In the 2001 Budget, the service expanded to target an area in each aldermanic district. DNS and Sanitation worked with the aldermen and community groups to assure successful implementation of the program city-wide. The program is usually from June through Labor Day. In the 2003, DNS worked with 16 community based organizations. The number of clean-up orders have steadily increased.

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006 to date
Clean-Up Orders Issued	109	171	242	223	346	131
Nuisance Vehicle Orders Issued	123	309	48	55	95	42

The clean-up has included citizens setting out bulky items on collection day, targeted collection of targeted collection of bulky items from landlords, and partnering with neighborhood groups to promote cleaning and greening efforts. In 2005, 20 community-based organizations cleaned most of the properties where the department expected voluntary compliance. This allowed the department to focus on properties where enforcement is required. This has reduced the need for additional clean-up funds to be paid to contractors to abate the nuisances.

4. Vacant Lot Maintenance, \$596,735, is a decrease of \$115,000, -16.2%, from the \$711,735 provided in the 2006 Budget. This SPA was established in 2006 to pay for the tax-levy supported costs of maintenance for city owned vacant lots. In 2007, vacant lot maintenance will be split. DNS will maintain general maintenance, through private contractors, on vacant lots for grass cutting and snow removal, fencing and posting, grading and seeding, through \$596,735 in funding. DPW-Sanitation will be responsible for all nuisance garbage clean up on vacant lots, through \$115,000 in funding in a separate SPA.

This service had been funded as a grant by CDBG. Federal guidelines stipulate that grant funds can only be used for maintenance activities following the acquisition of property for a maximum of first three years.

For 2007, the projection for total vacant lot maintenance is \$930,490: \$596,735 in funding for DNS, \$115,000 for DPW, and an additional \$218,755 is in CDBG funding, providing for activities associated with vacant lot maintenance.

5. Razing & Vacant Building Protection Fund, \$1,151,000, the same funding amount as 2006. The 1998 Adopted Budget consolidated two separate special purpose accounts: the Public Nuisance and Human Hazard Abatement Fund and the Razing and Vacant Building Protection Fund. The account consolidation provided increased flexibility in resource allocation for demolition or nuisance abatement actions. The "Receivership" SPA was established to provide funds to take the necessary actions to fix the violations, clean up the property, or take whatever action is required to abate the nuisance and/or hazard. This SPA is now associated with the City Attorney's Office. The number of razed buildings by DNS are:

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006 (through 8/18)
Buildings razed	176	126	167	151	211	136	143	89

The types of buildings that are demolished are primary and secondary structures. Primary structures are houses and commercial buildings. Secondary structures include garages and sheds. For 2006 year-to-date, 63 primary structures and 26 secondary structures have been demolished. Condemnation currently has 177 raze orders pending of which 74 will be torn down this year. Of those, 43 are primary structures and 31 are garages. This does not include any emergency demolitions which may occur before the end of the year.

For total buildings razed under permit by private demolitions and DNS contracted demolitions:

		Primary	Secondary	Total
2002	Private	260	430	690
	DNS	104	47	151
	Total	364	477	841
2003	Private	151	291	442
	DNS	169	42	211
	Total	320	333	653
2004	Private	154	285	439
	DNS	107	29	136
	Total	261	314	575
2005	Private	157	354	511
	DNS	107	36	143
	Total	264	390	654
2006*	Private	85	148	233
	DNS	63	26	89
	Total	148	174	322

* Year-to-date 8/18/06.

For 2006, the reduction in razzings is due to a number of restoration agreements that are being entered into on properties that have a raze order issued on them. This has reduced the demand for the City to raze the properties.

The following provides historical perspective on razing expenditures:

ACTUAL EXPENDITURES FOR RAZING, 1996 THROUGH 2005

YEAR	AMOUNT
1996	\$2,556,657*
1997	\$1,872,801
1998	\$1,601,737
1999	\$2,388,819
2000	\$2,201,442
2001	\$1,917,667
2002	\$1,793,230
2003	\$1,431,055
2004	\$1,260,404
2005	\$1,203,168

** In 1995 the Common Council approved a \$250,000 Contingent Fund appropriation for Razing purposes. This was carried over and expended in 1996.*

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