



February 9, 2006

Ald. Joe Davis, Sr.
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Town Hall Meetings Set On Group Homes

Ald. Davis concerned about potential expansion of group homes

A proposed change in city zoning rules could “open the floodgates” and substantially increase the numbers of group homes in the 2nd District and other city neighborhoods, according to Ald. Joe Davis, Sr. who has scheduled three Town Hall meetings to allow residents to learn more about this controversial proposal.

The proposed ordinance would remove a current zoning requirement that group homes and other community living arrangements in the city be located at least 2,500 feet apart from each other, provided that all residents of a facility are “disabled.”

The Town Hall meetings will be held on Monday, February 20, 2006 at Madison High School auditorium, 8135 W. Florist Ave., Tuesday, February 21, 2006 at John Muir Middle School auditorium, 5496 N. 72nd St. and Wednesday, February 22, 2006 at Marshall High School auditorium, 4141 N. 64th St. The meetings will all start at 6:00 p.m. Media coverage is welcome.

“A lawsuit at the federal level is prompting the proposed change which would allow for a vague definition of “disabled” persons,” said Ald. Davis. “The 2nd District is currently home to dozens of group homes and community-based residential facilities, the most of any aldermanic district in the city, and I invite all residents to attend these vitally important discussions.”

The legislation is currently before the Common Council’s Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development Committee.