

mental unit's total acreage to be designated as NEZ-eligible. Because there is a limitation set by the state on how much of the city can be designated as NEZ-eligible, the Administration has proposed that the plan be rolled out in three phases, with the first phase targeting 25 Detroit neighborhoods that carry the largest portion of the city's tax burden.

While the measure offers some property tax relief, it is not a panacea. The nature of the problem is structural and must be addressed holistically, with a thorough understanding of the long-range considerations. The Administration believes that this program is an investment despite the hefty upfront costs to the general fund. We must take a serious and creative approach to a solution that balances the city's fiscal challenges with the needs of the people in times of ever-increasing costs and ever-shrinking resources. Property taxes are disproportionately high all over Detroit and all property tax payers in this city deserves tax relief. I expect that this plan will be one step towards the attaining the ultimate goal. For these reasons, I voted "YES" on the resolution authorizing the establishment of the homestead facilities Neighborhood Enterprise Zone.

**STATEMENT BY COUNCIL MEMBER  
ALBERTA TINSLEY-TALABI  
REGARDING NEIGHBORHOOD  
ENTERPRISE ZONES**

Given the high tax rate in the City of Detroit, it is incumbent on city leaders to embrace all useful tools to maintain property values, stay competitive with surrounding areas and reduce the tax burden on city residents. I voted in support of the proposal to create 25 new Neighborhood Enterprise Zones because, in my opinion, it is an effective way to begin to address high property taxes in Detroit.

Property taxes in most cities make up the majority of operating revenue. However, only about 10% of the Detroit's general fund budget comes from property taxes; the bulk of which is generated by a relatively small number of residents. The NEZ proposal approved today will provide a 18-35% tax cut to eligible property owners who purchased homes after 1997. These long established neighborhoods contained in today's action were beginning to enter into a state of decline as a result of factors such as foreclosure rates, taxes, insurance rates and vacancies. The NEZ program approved today should help combat all of these factors. Additionally, the program will be implemented so that it will have no effect on the FY 06-07 Budget that began on July 1, 2006.

While I realize that today's action is just a beginning, there are many more hard working men and women who are struggling to maintain their families and homes

in the face of high taxes. We must find ways to provide tax relief to other areas of the city as well. The City Council will have to continue to work with the administration to find a workable plan to cut taxes for all residents while maintaining an acceptable level of city services. This will not be an easy task and will further challenge the city's limited resources.

I am also aware that the tax cuts approved today means that there will be \$8-\$13 million less available in the next budget year. When Council begins to deliberate on next year's budget, we will have to carefully examine all city services and programs to make sure we strike a delicate balance between expanding tax cuts and service delivery. But that will be just one of a number of challenges that must be dealt with as we work to rebuild the City of Detroit.

**Department of Public Works  
City Engineering Division**

July 18, 2006

Honorable City Council:

Re: Petition No. 0028. West Seven Mile Congregational Church Of God In Christ, Inc. request for the vacation of alley in the area of West Seven Mile Road, Mendota and Birwood Avenues.

Petition No. 0028 of "West Seven Mile Congregational Church Of God In Christ, Inc." request for the conversion of the East-West public alley, 20 feet wide, in the block bounded by Cambridge Avenue, 50 feet wide, West Seven Mile Road, 100 feet wide, Mendota Avenue, 60 feet wide, and Birwood Avenue, 60 feet wide into a private easement for utilities. This closure will facilitate the West Seven Mile Congregational Church Of God In Christ development of a new surface parking area.

The request was approved by the Planning and Development Department, Solid Waste Division — DPW, and Traffic Engineering Division — DPW. The petition was referred to the City Engineering Division — DPW for investigation (utility review) and report. This is our report.

If the petitioner at any time plans to discontinue use of the paved alley entrance (into Mendota and Birwood Avenue(s)), the petitioner shall pay all incidental removal cost.

All other city departments and private utility companies have reported no objection to the conversion of the public right-of-way into a private easement for utilities. Provisions protecting utility installations are part of this resolution.

I am recommending adoption of the attached resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM TALLEY

Head Engineer

City Engineering Division — DPW

By Council Member Conyers:

Resolved, All that part of the East-West public alley, 20 feet wide, lying Northerly of and abutting the North line of Lots 1 through 5, both inclusive, in the "College Wood's" being a subdivision of part of the South 1/2 of the South 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 5 T.1.S. R.11.E., Greenfield Township (now City of Detroit) Wayne County, Michigan as recorded in Liber 50 Page 3, Plats, Wayne County Records; and Lots 307 through 311, both inclusive, in the "Burghardt Subdivision No. 1" of the South 1/2 of the South 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 5 T.1.S. R.11.E., Greenfield Township (now City of Detroit) Wayne County, Michigan as recorded in Liber 49 Page 27, Plats, Wayne County Records; And lying Southerly of and abutting the South line of Lot 6 in the "College Wood's" being a subdivision of part of the South 1/2 of the South 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 5 T.1.S. R.11.E., Greenfield Township (now City of Detroit) Wayne County, Michigan as recorded in Liber 50 Page 3, Plats, Wayne County Records; and Lot 312 in the "Burghardt Subdivision No. 1" of the South 1/2 of the South 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 5 T.1.S. R.11.E., Greenfield Township (now City of Detroit) Wayne County, Michigan as recorded in Liber 49 Page 27, Plats, Wayne County Records;

Be and the same is hereby vacated as public alley and is hereby converted into private easement for public utilities of the full width of the alley, which easement shall be subject to the following covenants and agreements, uses, reservations and regulations, which shall be observed by the owners of the lots abutting on said alley and by their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, forever to wit:

First, said owners hereby grant to and for the use of the public easement or right-of-way over said vacated public alley herein above described for the purposes of maintaining, installing, repairing, removing, or replacing public utilities such as water mains, sewers, gas lines or mains, telephone, electric light conduits or poles or things usually placed or installed in a public alley in the City of Detroit, with the right to ingress and egress at any time to and over said easement for the purpose above set forth,

Second, Said utility easement or right-of-way in and over said vacated alley herein above described shall be forever accessible to the maintenance and

inspection forces of the utility companies, or those specifically authorized by them, for the purpose of inspecting, installing, maintaining, repairing, removing, or replacing any sewer, conduit, water main, gas line or main, telephone or light pole or any utility facility placed or installed in the utility easement or right-of-way. The utility companies shall have the right to cross or use the driveways and yards of the adjoining properties for ingress and egress at any time to an over said utility easement with any necessary equipment to perform the above mentioned task, with the understanding that the utility companies shall use due care in such crossing or use, and that any property damaged by the utility companies, other than that specifically prohibited by this resolution, shall be restored to a satisfactory condition,

Third, Said owners for their heirs and assigns further agree that no buildings or structures of any nature whatsoever including, but not limited to, retaining or partition walls, shall be built or placed upon said easement, nor change of surface grade made, without prior approval of the City Engineering Division—DPW,

Fourth, That if the owners of any lots abutting on said vacated alley shall request the removal and/or relocation of any existing poles or other utilities in said easement, such owners shall pay all costs incidental to such removal and/or relocation, unless such charges are waived by the utility owners,

Fifth, That if any utility located in said property shall break or be damaged as a result of any action on the part of said owners or assigns (by way of illustration but not limitation) such as storage of excessive weights of materials or construction not in accordance with Section 3, mentioned above, then in such event said owners or assigns shall be liable for all costs incidental to the repair of such broken or damaged utility; and further

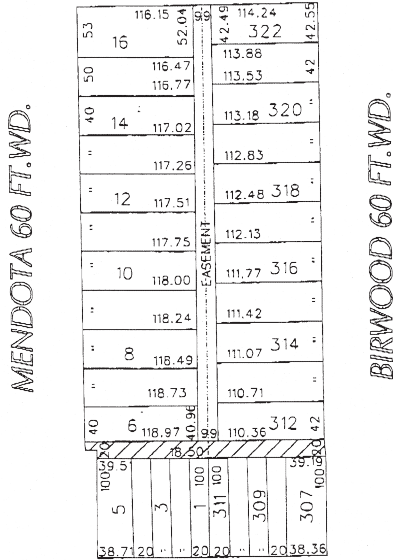
Provided, That if it becomes necessary to remove the paved return at the entrance (into Mendota and Birwood Avenue(s)), such removal and construction of new curb and sidewalk shall be done under city permit and inspection according to City Engineering Division — DPW specifications with all costs borne by the abutting owner(s), their heir or assigns; and further

Provided, That the City Clerk shall within 30 days record a certified copy of this resolution with the Wayne County Register of Deeds.

PETITION NO. 0028  
 W. 7 MILE CONGRET. CHURCH  
 10424 W. 7 MILE  
 c/o BISHOP HOSEA EVANS  
 PHONE NO. 313-863-5255  
 FAX NO. 313-863-5543



**CAMBRIDGE 50 FT. WD.**



**W. 7 MILE 100 FT. WD.**

- REQUESTED CONVERSION TO EASEMENT

(FOR OFFICE USE ONLY)

CARTO 88 D

B							
A							
DESCRIPTION		DEVL	CHKD	APPR	DATE	REQUESTED CONVERSION TO EASEMENT THE EAST - WEST PUBLIC ALLEY IN THE AREA OF CAMBRIDGE, 7 MILE, BIRWOOD, AND MENDOTA	
DRAWN BY		REVISIONS		CHECKED		CITY OF DETROIT CITY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT SURVEY BUREAU	
DATE		APPROVED		JOB NO.		307	
5-1-06				07-01		309	
				DRWG. NO.		x0028.dgn	

Adopted as follows:  
 Yeas — Council Members S. Cockrel, Collins, Conyers, Jones, Kenyatta, Reeves, Tinsley-Talabi, Watson, and President K. Cockrel, Jr. — 9.  
 Nays — None.

**Detroit Department of Transportation**  
 June 29, 2006

Honorable City Council:  
 Re: Acceptance of Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Revised Project Authorization FY2003 Section 5307/CMAQ (MI-90-X412).  
 Your Honorable Body is respectfully requested to accept the above-referenced revised project authorization for the Detroit Department of Transportation (DDOT).

Approval of this revision will allow additional time to complete the bus replace-

ment project. This is a time-extension contract only (extended to August 12, 2007), and no local share is required from the City of Detroit's general fund.

Your Honorable Body's approval of this amendatory grant contract is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,  
 NORMAN L. WHITE  
 Director

Approved:  
 FLOYD STANLEY  
 Deputy Budget Director  
 ROGER SHORT  
 Deputy Finance Director

By Council Member Jones:  
 Resolved, That the Detroit Department of Transportation (DDOT) be and is hereby authorized to enter into a revised project agreement to extend grant contract MDOT FY 2003 Section 5307/