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Greg Landsman
Councilmember

March 21, 2022

MOTION

Problem Properties & Additional Litigators

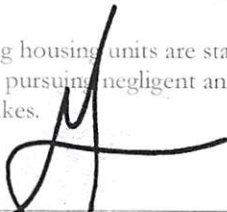
We hereby move that the Administration provide a report on the impact of additional litigators on increasing the number of successful cases against problem properties.

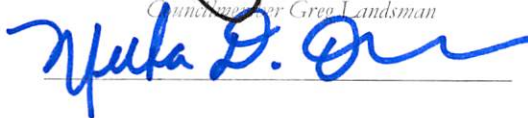
STATEMENT

Across Cincinnati, some of our most marginalized residents are living with insufficient utilities, bug infestations, drug dealing and crime, and general neglect. Problem properties — most often defined as rental properties wherein the owner/landlord refuses to meet safety and maintenance codes for extended periods of time, ultimately placing their tenants in unsafe living conditions — have long been an issue impacting renters, neighborhoods, and the regulators tasked with keeping track of them.

From establishing a pilot registration program for repeat offenders to trying to create a more effective housing court for addressing these issues, many leaders at the City level have tried to tackle code enforcement of these properties in new ways. Training and education regarding building security and landlord responsibilities; Inspectors and employees in charge of health code enforcement work tirelessly to follow-up on reports of property neglect and violations; but, all efforts to deal with this matter are futile if our team of City litigators, who take the worst of the worst (habitual offenders hostile to compliance) to court, are too understaffed to pursue punishment.

Ensuring existing housing units are stable and safe is a key part of tackling Cincinnati's housing crisis, therefore more effectively pursuing negligent and careless problem properties should be a priority for this Council. No matter what it takes.

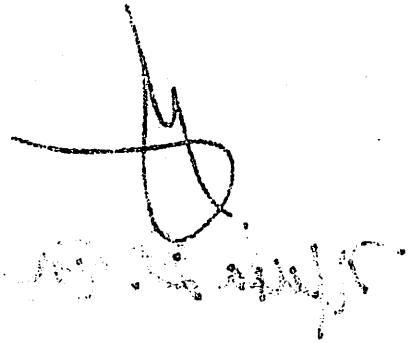


Councilmember Greg Landsman




Councilmember Reggie Harris

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A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'M' followed by a series of smaller, less distinct characters.

KL-B&F