



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Third Ward Commissioners seek input from the Southtown Community

Grand Rapids, MI – Third Ward City Commissioners James White and Elias Lumpkins invite residents, community organizations, businesses and property owners to attend the Southtown Summit to discuss use of the Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) tool for community development activities. The meeting, to be held September 14, 2009 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Kent County Human Services Complex (121 Franklin SE), will provide opportunity for citizens to better understand the NRSA, its benefits, and the rules governing it. More importantly, citizens will be asked to provide input on the current use of the NRSA.

Commissioner White says, “We want to hear from the Southtown community about what’s working and what isn’t working with the current approach, so we can determine the best strategy for investing limited resources in neighborhoods.” Commissioner Lumpkins adds, “We are committed to listening to citizens and developing a plan that best meets the needs of the community.”

The NRSA is a designation by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for a geographic area with a high concentration of low- to moderate-income residents where there is a comprehensive revitalization plan for stimulating reinvestment of human and economic capital. The Southtown NRSA boundaries are Wealthy Street on the north, Fuller Avenue on the east, Dickinson Street on the south, Buchanan Avenue to Albany Street to Division Avenue on the west. For details about the Southtown NRSA see the plan at www.grcd.info under Reports and Plans.

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