

NEWS STORY

Detroit Historic Neighborhoods Coalition Questions Candidates

The Detroit Historic Neighborhoods Coalition (DHNC), a non-profit group representing 30 historic neighborhoods throughout the City and more than 30,000 voters, has distributed questionnaires to all City Council and Mayoral candidates. Mayoral candidates who returned the questionnaires to the Coalition were invited to attend interviews with representatives from the various neighborhoods.

After the interviews, the Coalition compiled a "Report Card" and distributed the card to every household in neighborhoods across the city. The "Report Card" is designed to inform voters where each candidate stands on issues relating to City services (especially lack of services), the City's budget process, the relationship of revenues, regional mass transit, street lighting, delivery of city services and other issues of concern to the neighborhoods.

The City Council candidates who succeed in the primary will also be interviewed and evaluated in August.

The Coalition, was formed in 1999 as a political action organization to advocate for Detroit's older and historic neighborhoods. Under the Articles of Incorporation, the Coalitions' purposes are to "maintain, preserve and restore historic neighborhoods, areas and structures in Detroit..." through legal and political means.

The DHNC has tackled such tough issues as;

- **Underground wiring**, succeeding in getting several neighborhoods re-lamped
- Successfully petitioning the administration to close down **illegal gas station** installations within neighborhoods.
- Creating a **city-wide list of street lighting outages** and working with all levels of city government to create work schedules for repair (whenever possible).

The Coalition meets third Thursday of each month at various locations throughout the city. Although this Coalition was formed to represent the historic neighborhoods, we welcome any neighborhood wishing to join this political action group to send a representative.

For more information, call Chairperson, Kim Schroeder at (313)- 963-6355 (kim@detroitoriginals.com) or President Earl Smith at (248)320-0902 or (PoppyChulo@comcast.net). Inquiries regarding the questionnaire and interview process should be addressed to James Turner at 313-574-9073 (jamesturn@msn.com). Our website also contains more details at www.neighborhoodlink.com/org/dethistoric.