

Kansas City, Missouri
City Council's 2008 Federal Legislative Agenda

A. Infrastructure

1. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Projects - support continued funding of projects to achieve flood damage reduction and for water resources planning efforts for the following:

- a. Turkey Creek Basin
- b. Blue River Channel
- c. Blue River Basin
- d. Kansas City's Seven (7) River Levees
- e. Swope Park Industrial Area
- f. Brush Creek Basin
- g. Missouri River Degradation
- h. Line Creek Basin

2. Kansas City's Intermodal Facility - support funding for environmental remediation at the former Richards-Gebaur Air Base to allow for expedited economic development opportunities

3. Transportation - support for the upcoming re-authorization of the Federal Transportation Legislation asking for specific projects to be identified:

- a. Reconfiguration of the entire mile around the I-435 and I-70 connection in Kansas City.
- b. Consideration of the Truman Boulevard / I-670 project pending the conclusion of the study being undertaken with the City under supervision by the Missouri Department of Transportation.

4. Transportation requests through the Transportation HUD appropriations bill

- a. Performance Based Inter-Urban Transportation Safety Program - support funding for the Inter-Urban area by improving transportation infrastructure in the urban core.
- b. Light Rail alternatives analysis and preliminary engineering.

5. Water Service and Quality - support funding for:

- a. Combined sewer and wet weather control infrastructure repair
- b. Cleaner and safer drinking water
- c. Water Quality Investment Act for sewer overflow control grants
- d. Establish the National Commission on Infrastructure

- e. Water Quality Financing Act for water pollution control programs
- f. Healthy Communities Water Supply Act

B. Community Issues

- 1. Lease Purchase** support new legislation authorizing the U.S. General Services Administration to enter into a thirty year purchase contract and/or lease purchase arrangement for a new federal building in Kansas City.
- 2. Predatory Lending** support predatory lending reform, specifically HR 3915, the Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act and oppose all weakening amendments, such as any attempt to preempt states from passing stronger laws.
- 3. Vacant Property** support for the Neighborhood Reclamation and Revitalization Act to create a grant fund for communities to improve and clean-up vacant property that currently blights neighborhoods.
- 4. Community Justice Program** support an appropriations request to assist in implementing the Community Justice Program to improve local justice systems capacities.
- 5. New Markets Tax Credits** support for the reauthorization of the program and for Kansas City's participation in the awarding of future tax credits.
- 6. Workforce Investment Act** support for the reauthorization and increased funding of this act which provides needed help for full employment activities.
- 7. Housing** support for the continuation and increased funding for the Community Development Block Grant program and creation of a National Affordable Housing Trust Fund.
- 8. Homeland Security** - support funding for:
 - a. Homeland security anti-terrorism projects and initiatives
 - b. First responder agencies and services
 - c. Local homeland security offices, facilities and personnel
 - d. Protection of essential local utilities, facilities and services.
- 9. Environment**
 - a. Support reauthorization of the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act of 2002 to provide additional and more flexible funding for the cleanup and re-development of brownfields.
 - b. Creation of an Energy and Environmental Block Grant as recommended by the U.S. Conference of Mayors.
 - c. Support federal funding for green solutions.

- 10. Public Health** - support significant, permanent increases in funding for local health departments to improve their capacity to handle public health threats, including naturally occurring infectious diseases and bio-terrorism. Also support increased funding and opportunities to combat the spread of HIV/AIDS in our community.
- 11. Homeless Assistance** - support funding of homeless assistance programs and remove mandatory 30% caps on Essential Services and Homeless Prevention funds and support for the Community Partnership to End Homelessness Act.
- 12. Parks, Recreation and Cultural Projects** support appropriations from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act and transportation funding for an improved zoo entrance and earmarked funding for a permanent facility for the Kansas City Ballet Association.
- 13. Foster Grandparent Reform** support reform to increase the income eligibility guideline, reduce the eligibility age for participation in the Foster Grandparent Program, and increase stipend for volunteers for the program.
- 14. Home Energy Assistance** - Support for increased funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- 15. Not-for-Profits** -
 - a. Transportation program improvements for Operation Breakthrough.
 - b. Federal financial assistance for the construction of the new Samuel Rodgers Health Center.
- 16. Public safety** support for the funding of new Police Department helicopters.