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January 13, 2009

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES ON FINANCE and  
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, MEETING IN JOINT SESSION**

The Committees on Finance Housing and Community Development convened in Joint Session on January 13, 2009, with Chairmen Maryann Heuston and Rebekah Gewirtz presiding and Committee Members Aldermen Bruce Desmond, Walter Pero and Thomas Taylor also present and voting. Also present were Administrative Assistant Jessie Baker, Monica Lamboy, Phil Ercolini, Steve Winslow, Rob May and Mark Freidman from SPCD, Assistant Solicitor David Shapiro, Finance Director Ed Bean and Stephen Mackey from the Chamber of Commerce.

(President Pero appointed Alderman Desmond to the Housing and Community Development Committee, for this meeting only, to effect a quorum.)

Ms. Lamboy and the staff of SPCD discussed the HUD 5-year Action Plan and reviewed:

- the city's housing stock and ways to improve it
- homelessness and ways to combat it
- inclusionary housing and linkage fees
- available programs to rehab and upgrade homes
- available funding sources
- the role of inspectors
- the role of HUD
- developing under-developed areas
- rezoning impacts on proposed development
- storefront improvement programs
- city-sponsored seminars for small businesses
- a proposed Farmers' Market for East Somerville
- plans for Historic Preservation
- transportation and infrastructure

Chairman Gewirtz requested that a comparison between last year's and this year's figures be provided to the committees and also expressed concern over tree inventory funding.

Chairman Heuston's motion **that item 5A, (Union Square Main Streets), on the 2009-2010 HUD Action Plan's Economic & Community Development grid be restored to \$75,000**, was approved.

Public comment will be received on this matter through February 12, 2009 and a decision should be made on the plan by February 14, 2009.

No papers were acted on.

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Alderman Maryann Heuston, Chairman  
Committee on Finance

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Alderman Rebekah Gewirtz, Chairman  
Committee on Housing and Community Development

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

Report of the Committees on Finance and  
Housing and Community Development,  
meeting in Joint Session, January 13, 2009

In Board of Aldermen

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Clerk