RESOLUTION NO. 7706

A RESOLUTION introduced by Councilmembers Lana Kennedy and Brett Blackburn establishing a Special Council Committee to study and consider issues related to the Development Services Division of the City of Topeka's Public Works Department.

WHEREAS, as set out in its mission statement, the City of Topeka's Public Works Department's Development Services Division goals are to safeguard life or limb, health, property and public welfare by inspecting buildings, structures and sites for compliance with local, state and federal laws regulating and controlling the construction, quality of materials, use and occupancy, location and maintenance within the City of Topeka and to maintain the highest level of public safety and customer service in the administration of building construction code enforcement; and

WHEREAS, councilmembers have received a number of complaints from constituents regarding what they perceive to be arbitrary interpretations of building codes; response time on inspections and timely issuances of certificates of occupancy; and timely resolutions of Code Compliance issues.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Topeka, Kansas that the Council hereby appoints a Special Committee to study, review and make written recommendations to the City Council as more specifically described herein and consistent with the above recitals. Members of the Special Committee shall be residents of the City of Topeka or own a business located within the municipal services area or the City of Topeka and shall possess special knowledge as a

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residential or commercial contractor; electrical, mechanical or plumbing trade
contractor; excavation, elevator, concrete, demolition, swimming pool, roofing,
fire alarm, fire sprinkler or framing contractor; or be a developer of residential or
commercial properties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Council of the
City of Topeka, Kansas that the Special Committee shall consist of nine (9)
members to be appointed by the Deputy Mayor, as recommended by each of the
nine (9) councilmembers. Each councilmember shall inform the Deputy Mayor of
his or her selection within one (1) week of the passage of this resolution. If a
councilmember has not made a selection within the one (1) week time period, the
Deputy Mayor will make a selection on behalf of that councilmember. The
Special Committee shall elect one member to serve as Chair of the Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Topeka,
Kansas that the Special Committee is directed to study, review and make
recommendations to the City Council on or before sixty (60) days from passage
regarding the following:

- Practices and procedures, specifically relating to the interpretation
  and enforcement of building codes and staff response time on
  inspections and issuance of certificates of occupancy.

- Practices and procedures, specifically relating to the enforcement
  of the City's unsafe structures code, housing code, nuisance code,
  weed abatement code and staff response time on inspections.
• Practices and procedures relating to general building codes.

ADOPTED and APPROVED by the City Council       OCT 25 2005

CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS

William W. Bunten, Mayor

ATTEST:

Iris E. Walker, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
DATE 10/5/05 BY BC

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