

**DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET INFORMATION
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (45)**

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Department of Administrative Hearings (DAH) will support the Mayor's vision to transform the government of the City of Detroit to the Next Detroit by applying the guiding principles of the Next Detroit, which means a commitment to structural balancing by managing costs and improving services to citizens.

The Department of Administrative Hearings (DAH) will play an integral role in supporting Mayor Kilpatrick's vision to create a cleaner Detroit by supporting the City's efforts to eradicate illegal dumping. The DAH will support these efforts in the adjudication and collection processes.

The Department of Administrative Hearings (DAH) will help support the Mayor's initiative to create a cleaner City by establishing an efficient and cost effective manner to adjudicate cases in an impartial and independent forum.

DESCRIPTION

The Department of Administrative Hearings (DAH) incorporates the Municipal Ordinance Violations Bureau's (MOVB) collection process into its system, thereby establishing new procedures for the administration, adjudication and collection of blight violations into one framework. The Zoning, Environmental, and Property Maintenance Branches of the MOVB are now adjudicated under the Department of Administrative Hearings. The DAH will assess civil fines and costs pursuant to the schedules of violations for the Blight Ordinances. Under the DAH, violation notices will contain hearing dates, so no separate citation will be generated, and hearings will yield Decisions and Orders

with which a defendant must comply or appeal to the 3rd Circuit Court of Michigan.

**MAJOR INITIATIVES FOR
FY 2006-07**

The DAH opened its doors in January 2005 at 561 E. Jefferson. Since then, 78,444 blight violation notices have been issued by the enforcing agencies and 72,070 DAH hearings have been held. The City intends for inspectors and police officers to eventually generate violation notices in the field electronically using laptops or handheld ticket writing devices with portable printers. The total future volume of violations is not known, but it is expected to decrease in subsequent years, as the deterrent effects of the increased enforcement effort begin to accrue throughout the city. Fines and revenues are recorded for Solid Waste/Illegal Dumping violations are recorded in the Department of Environmental Affairs, and for Zoning and Property Maintenance violations in the Department of Buildings and Safety Engineering.

**PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE FOR
FY 2007-08, FY 2008-09 and BEYOND**

The Next Detroit Neighborhood Initiative (NDNI) is a 5-year strategy focusing on the rejuvenation of Detroit neighborhoods into vibrant areas for the citizens. The approach will concentrate on improving basic quality of life issues such as cleanliness, safety and beautification through growth and development strategies. The Department of Administrative Hearings will play an integral role in this strategy through the working plan developed by the NDNI Committee.

The Department is looking at the possibility of handling cases out in the community.

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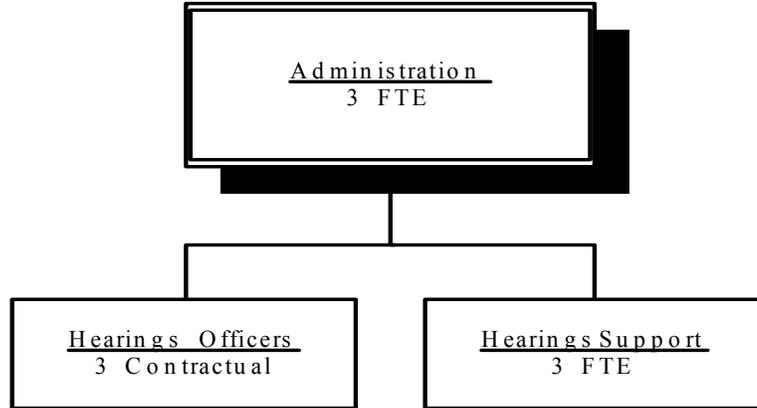
This would allow residents of the city to commute a shorter distance to have their cases heard in the neighborhoods where the violations occur.

Also, the possibility of expanding the DAH's jurisdiction is being looked into. It is possible that lead-based paint violations, as well as abandoned vehicle violations, could be added as code violations heard by this department.

The City of Chicago's Department of Administrative Hearings addressed quality of life offenses with the following Hearing Divisions: Buildings, Consumer Affairs,

Environmental Safety, Municipal, Vehicles, and Community Service. Every year the department's administrative law officers preside over 400,000 cases, including tens of thousands of cases previously prosecuted in an overburdened state court system. Cases include general violations of the Municipal Code related to disorderly conduct, permits, public drinking, graffiti and vandalism, peddling, business license permits, public taxis and liveries, and consumer fraud and deception. More City of Detroit codes are already contemplated for decriminalization, according to careful study of the programs effectiveness here.

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PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND TARGETS

Type of Performance Measure: List of Measures	2005-06 Actual	2006-07 Projection	2007-08 Target
Outputs: Units of Activity directed toward Goals:			
Number of zoning division violations heard	11,350	11,350	13,000
Number of solid waste/illegal dumping division violations heard	9,350	9,350	10,000
Number of property maintenance division violations heard	20,700	20,700	22,000
Outcomes: Results or Impacts of Program Activities			
Average number of days between violation issuance and hearing date	55	55	50
Percent of Decisions and Orders overturned	0%	0%	0%
Percent of Decisions and Orders appealed	<1%	<1%	<2%
Efficiency: Program Costs related to Units of Activity			
Percent of Orders in delinquency	50%	50%	45%
Percent of cases that are no-show	50%	50%	45%

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EXPENDITURES

	2005-06 Actual Expense	2006-07 Redbook	2007-08 Mayor's Budget Rec	Variance	Variance Percent
Salary & Wages	\$ 363,520	\$ 362,117	\$ 365,811	\$ 3,694	1%
Employee Benefits	236,246	264,045	241,803	(22,242)	-8%
Prof/Contractual	531,006	1,246,304	1,298,460	52,156	4%
Operating Supplies	14,710	10,000	10,000	-	0%
Operating Services	417,270	331,510	278,533	(52,977)	-16%
Capital Equipment	12,566	20,000	5,000	(15,000)	-75%
Other Expenses	6,987	-	-	-	0%
TOTAL	\$ 1,582,305	\$ 2,233,976	\$ 2,199,607	\$ (34,369)	-2%
POSITIONS	5	6	6	-	0%

REVENUES

	2005-06 Actual Expense	2006-07 Redbook	2007-08 Mayor's Budget Rec	Variance	Variance Percent
Fines/Forfeits/Pension	\$ (4,428)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%
Rev From Use of Assets	433	85	85	-	0%
Sales and Charges	\$ 317,583	1,115,856	\$ 886,982	(228,874)	-21%
TOTAL	\$ 313,588	\$ 1,115,941	\$ 887,067	\$ (228,874)	-21%