Alderman Davis Partners with City Agencies to Avert Health Hazard

Alderman’s follow through on complaint call brings attention to bedbug infestation and need for city intervention.

Following through on a complaint call received yesterday from a constituent, Alderman Joe Davis, Sr. (District 2) promptly engaged the Department of Neighborhood Services (DNS) to respond to a massive bedbug infestation at the Diamond Inn, 6222 W. Fond du Lac Ave. Today, DNS inspectors examined the property—specifically the eight rooms listed in the complaint—and found evidence of a bedbug infestation.

“The Department of Neighborhood Services has acted on this property before, citing the owner for these problems, but frequently the owners do the minimal response to rectify the code violations,” Alderman Davis said. “But when the complaints include children coming out of what is their home covered in significant numbers of bites, it’s time for the city to take further action.”

Davis explained that though today’s budget announcement reminds us that the city is working with limited resources, the health and safety of our children is a primary goal. “Children don’t need to be raised like this,” Alderman Davis said. “We can, through city partnerships and fast action, work to ensure—at the minimum—quality shelter for our youth.”

Davis praised the work of the Department of Neighborhood Services and acknowledges that city agencies often work in partnerships. “DNS has repeatedly used its tools on this property owner and today is no different. There is also a public health issue at stake here, which gives us the opportunity to call on the Health Department for their resources as well,” Davis said.

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“Another partnership we can cultivate is one with the press and public,” the Alderman said. “The city effectively deploys its tactics, but awareness is also key and that’s where the press comes in. Alerting the public to these situations helps to ensure that meeting health and safety standards for our children and families is something we can all demand.”

To report a code violation or a problem property in your area, contact the city and the Department of Neighborhood Services at 286-CITY.

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