Council proposal would expand rental certificate program

The Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development Committee will consider a proposed ordinance to make permanent and expand the residential rental certificate pilot program when it meets tomorrow (Tuesday, October 28), according to committee chair Alderman Jim Bohl.

The committee will meet at 9 a.m. in room 301-B at City Hall, 200 E. Wells St.

Currently, the city’s residential rental certificate pilot program requires residential rental property owners within a designated area to apply for a residential rental certificate for each rental unit. The current designated inspection area contains two inspection districts – one in Lindsay Heights and one located on the east side.

The proposed ordinance would expand the “designated residential area” by adding a third inspection district, the area bounded roughly by W. Burnham St., W. Cleveland Ave., S. 4th Street and S. 9th Street.

In addition, the ordinance will also repeal the January 1, 2015 sunset provision for the residential rental certificate program, therefore permitting the continuation of the program.

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Committee/ADD ONE

Under the program, inspectors enforce the existing housing maintenance code, the building fire code, and the zoning code. Disqualifying violations are conditions which affect the safe, decent and sanitary living conditions of persons occupying a residential unit, or other conditions that violate the provisions of the building code, building maintenance code or zoning code that indicate in their totality that the rental unit is not being properly maintained.

Tuesday’s Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development Committee meeting will be televised live on the City Channel (Channel 25 on Time Warner Cable in the City of Milwaukee), and on U-Verse Channel 99. Online viewing is available by going to www.city.milwaukee.gov/Channel25.

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