

**Tenants To Homeowners, Inc.
2518 Ridge Court 209
Lawrence KS 66046**

04/20/2004

To: Chuck Soules 785.832.3398

From: Alan Bowes 785.760.4537

Resolution 6555

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Phone 785.842.5494
Fax 785.842.7570
Tenants-to-homeowners.org
tthinc@hotmail.com

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This letter describes the position of Tenants To Homeowners, Inc. in regard to Resolution 6535.

Tenants to Homeowners purpose in this project is to follow our mission statement of creating affordable housing opportunities for low to moderate income home buyers in Lawrence. Tenants to Homeowners has been creating affordable housing opportunities since 1993, including the thirty unit HAND project at 25th and Haskell, 10 units on Atherton Court, the Harper St. houses and others.

The reason for buying the land and developing the six lots at 3rd and Alabama is to create unique affordable, energy-efficient and accessible housing opportunities for low to moderate income buyers in Lawrence. The content of Resolution 6535, construction of 3rd St. from Alabama to Illinois, places a financial burden \$12,133 on each unit.

This project is an attempt to create affordable, energy efficient accessible housing ownership opportunities for low to moderate income buyers in Lawrence. The 12,133 dollars per lot this resolution will add to the cost of each house will act against the interests of the low to moderate buyers who are attempting to become homeowners by using the city's First Time Home Buyer Program and Tenants to Homeowners. The buyers who need this opportunity the most: low income working families, single parents, citizens with disabilities, who cannot finance the additional \$12,133 required by resolution 3534 will not be able to access this opportunity.

The staff and Board of Directors of Tenants To Homeowners ask the commissioners to consider alternative financing in this unique case. We understand a street repair required by development is paid for by the developer. In this development the street construction will be born paid for by the six low to moderate income families using the city's First Time Home Buyer Program and Tenants to Homeowners development and four lots on the north side of 3rd St. Perhaps in-fill projects in older neighborhoods creating affordable housing are a unique situation requiring unique financing.

We ask that the commissioners consider sharing the cost of this long needed street improvement with the low income home buyers in a 50-50 split. The lower cost of this development allowed by a 50-50 split will allow lower income buyers, who need this opportunity the most, to access this project.

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