

## CITY COUNCIL ACTION REPORT

April 2, 2008

TO: Phillip L. Nelson, City Manager

FROM: Brian Murphy, Assistant City Manager/ Economic Development Services  
Mark Stimac, Director of Building and Zoning

SUBJECT: Request to Waive Permit Fees, Christmas in Action Projects

### Background:

- A volunteer organization called Christmas in Action provides free home repairs to seniors and handicapped residents of the community. We have received a request from their President, Rick Gauthier, asking that the fees for permits required for the work that they are performing be waived. Although the full scope of work involved and therefore the final fees normally necessary for the work are not known at this time, we estimate that the amount of fees would be approximately \$200.

### Financial Considerations:

- The waiver of fees for this project would not significantly impact the budget and operation of the Building Department.

### Legal Considerations:

- City Council, by resolution, establishes permit fees and can provide waiver of the fees by the same action.

### Policy Considerations:

- Enhance the livability and safety in the community (Goal 1)
- Retain and attract investment while encouraging redevelopment (Goal 3)

### Options:

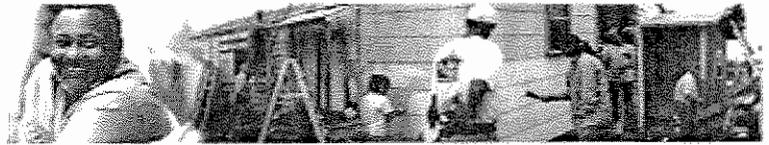
- City Council can waive permit fees for this project.
- Permit fees will be charged for the work that is proposed.

# Christmas in Action

Troy

"Neighbors helping Neighbors"

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Honorary Advisor  
Norma Okonski  
Oakland County President

April 2, 2008

Board of Directors  
Ramzi Dalloo  
Dalloo Enterprises

Mayor Louise Schilling & Troy City Council  
500 W. Big Beaver  
Troy, MI 48084

Paula Fleming  
ProForma JM&P

Dear Mayor Schilling & Troy City Council Members:

Wade Fleming  
ProForma JM&P

I would like to request a favor of the Troy City Council related to Christmas in Action Troy. Back In 1973 Bobby Trimble challenged his Sunday School class to go out and help their area's low-income and handicapped seniors with home repairs. Believing it was their way of completing mission-work at-home. From those early days Christmas in Action has spread across the country.

Wicki Richardson  
City of Troy

Mark Stimac  
City of Troy

Launched in 1996, with determination and pride, Christmas in Action of Oakland County has been completing Free Home Repairs for low-income and handicapped seniors the last Saturday each April. Volunteers work side-by-side and install new roofs, furnaces, hot water heaters, paint, complete endless plumbing repairs, repair faulty electrical and install handicap ramps **all at no cost to the low-income, handicapped senior.** To accomplish this mission we partner with businesses, community groups, churches and individuals to provide the financial, material and volunteer support each year to make Christmas in Action a reality.

Greg Wolf  
Century 21

President  
Richard K. Gauthier  
Troy Postmaster

Secretary/V. President  
Cindy Stewart  
City of Troy

On April 26, 2008, Christmas in Action Troy will coordinate our second workday in Troy. Last year we took on two major house projects as well as 12 "Rake & Runs." We anticipate having over 125 volunteers in Troy on that Saturday and have already received sponsor dollars from a number of local businesses and non-profit organizations. The donations will be used to cover all the materials and supplies for the homes. While our projects last year did not include any work requiring permits to be obtained, we have increased our ability to do larger projects and this year's project will include work requiring mechanical, electrical and plumbing permits. **Christmas in Action Troy would like to request that the Troy City Council waive the permit fees we will have based on the home projects. This would help us save our donations for materials needed on work day.**

Treasurer  
Sarah Schonschek  
National City

Christmas in Action  
is 501© 3 Non-Profit  
Building Hope through  
Community Partnerships  
and Volunteerism

**Our Mission**  
*Volunteers provide  
the FREE home  
repairs that enable  
low-income and  
handicapped seniors  
to safely remain in  
their homes.*

Seniors in need are everyone's problem; but together as partners we can be part of the solution. Not only are we improving the quality of life for a senior we are rebuilding and bringing hope to the entire community

Sincerely,

Rick Gauthier, President  
Christmas in Action Troy