

Memorandum

City of Lawrence

Planning & Development Services

TO: David L. Corliss, City Manager

FROM: Planning and Development Services Staff

Date: For December 17, 2013 City Commission Regular Meeting

RE: Rental Expansion – 2nd Update to Agenda

This memo responds to requests for additional information from the City Commission as noted below.

How many violations have been found in single-family homes in the current RS-based program? What number of the violations above is outstanding?

Since inception, the current RS-based program has produced over 8,000 violations.

As of December 13, 2013 there are 2400 active licenses. To-date in 2013, 355 units have been inspected generating 890 violations. Of these violations, 574 on 238 properties are outstanding and in need of re-inspection to verify compliance. 316 of the violations on 117 properties have been corrected.

One of the challenges of the existing program is re-inspecting licensed property in a timely manner. Essentially one inspector, who has other duties in the Code Enforcement Division, implements the current RS-based licensing and inspection program. Staff seeks to employ a re-inspection campaign during slower months of inspection (usually winter months when other Code Enforcement cases slow) in order to close out rental violation cases thus reducing the number of active violations.

Does the city collect information on the rent charged for a unit? If not, is this information that could be collected?

The city does not collect rent information. State law prevents the city from requiring that information. In any event, staff does not believe it is information necessary to implement the licensing and inspection program.