



Department of Planning & Community & Economic Development

Building Inspection Division

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DATE: October 12, 2020

TO: Plan Commission

FROM: George C. Hank, Director 
Building Inspection Division

SUBJECT: Demolition of 522 South Gammon Road

On October 12, 2020, I inspected the exterior of the former Sears Auto Center at West Towne Mall located at 522 South Gammon on the City's West side. The service center closed in 2018 and has been vacant since then. The exterior inspection found no obvious defects or apparent structural issues. I have been advised that pipes from the building's fire suppression system froze and burst during a recent winter.

Vacant buildings in general are targets for vandalism and while the building has been secured, this only prevents people who generally obey the law from attempting to enter the building. This possess a potential public nuisance.

The building was designed and built with a single use in mind and does not lend itself to easy renovation and/or change of use. I am writing to urge support for the issuance of the Demolition Permit.