## CITY OF DETROIT • NEIGHBORHOOD CITY HALLS



## COMMUNITY NEWS



Coleman A. Young, Mayor

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Arletta Douglas, Director

## WHAT MAKES A CITY GREAT?

A city is its people. If they are self-reliant, knowledge-able, and diligent, if they help one another, and if they have a strong sense of loyalty to the common interest, then the city will be a great city. One of Detroit's greatest assets is the spirited resilience of its citizens. The many active community organizations are also an asset. Debate and even conflict are better than apathy.



A dynamic city also needs collective symbols. The developments along the river, in downtown, and up Woodward belong to everyone. They are our collective statement that we as a city are moving forward, building, achieving. Did you ever look at Detroit from Windsor? It is an impressive sight. And think about what more is comingthe Millender Center, the Stroh's and ANR developments on the riverfront, the People Mover, a revitalized downtown theater district.

We need to have all our major thoroughfares put a more positive face forward, not look like no-man's lands. In the thoroughfares is our chance to tell passers-through who we are, that we have pride and hope, and that we care.



This well-groomed New Center Area housing, refurbished, is typical of possibilities all over the City.

Just as important as pride are compassion, and, certainly, love. How do we express these attitudes through the physical appearance of our city? Let us think together about how to make the appearance of the city testify more vividly that compassion and love abide here.

The economic greatness of a city depends on its relations to the outside world — what passes through, how central it is to the larger system of exchange, what goods and services it exports outside its own boundaries. We make sleek cars and strong steel. We also make trade journals and industrial films. We export Diana Rosses and Tom Sellecks. We have to keep creating and exporting what the rest of the nation and the world want to receive. This means we have to keep learning new skills and developing new ideas. Roots are important and must be tended, but new growth is essential for survival.

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