

DRAFT MODIFICATIONS (October 21, 2013)
Provide Specific Reference to Protection of the Public Health

Current provision for neighborhood issues, inserted in the 2006 Charter when the Neighborhood and Community Services Department (now part of the Neighborhood and Housing Services Department) was removed from the Charter.

Sec. 416. Neighborhood matters.

It is recognized that neighborhood concerns change, reflecting the issues of importance at a particular point in time. It is also recognized that simply because specific items of concern change, there will always be concerns for residents and neighborhoods. The Council shall provide by ordinance for at least one department whose duties include, in whole or in part, the development and maintenance of healthy neighborhoods.

Sec. 417. Public Health Matters

~~It is recognized that regardless of its governance or structure, regardless of where specific authorities are vested or where particular services are delivered, everyone, no matter where they live, should reasonably expect the city to meet certain standards. It is also~~ recognized that there will always be concern for the public health of all residents, neighborhoods, and visitors to the City of Kansas City, Missouri. ~~Therefore, the~~ The Council shall provide by ordinance for at least one department whose duties include, in whole, or in part, protecting the public health of Kansas City residents and its visitors. ~~This shall be insured by the city achieving and maintaining national accreditation. Ordinances shall, without limitation, provide for the enforcement of laws and regulations preserving and promoting the public health, including the lawful authority to enter property, identify and abate public nuisances, and engage with other entities to promote plans and programs to protect and improve the public health.~~

~~a) — Duties:~~

~~1. — Regulation of the public health.~~

~~A. — Enforce laws. Enforce all laws relating to public health, and may make rules and regulations for preserving and promoting the public health, provision of indigent health care; including taking all measures necessary to avoid, suppress or mitigate disease and relieve distress caused by disaster or acts of terrorism.~~

~~B. — Nuisance abatement. That the designated department director shall have the power to cause any nuisance detrimental to health to be abated or removed. The cost of abatement may be assessed and collected as a special tax and be a lien on the property affected thereby, in the manner provided by ordinance.~~

~~C. — Entry into property. The designated department director may enter all property necessary to enforce all laws relating to public health and for purposes of providing for the avoidance, suppression or mitigation of disease, and abatement of nuisances and other unhealthy conditions.~~

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~~D. — Community Engagement. That the designated department, in conjunction with the Health Commission, engage the community in developing public health policies in implementing Kansas City Community Health Improvement Plan~~

~~2. — Other assigned duties. Perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law.~~