



SEARCH ALL

All [Local News](#) [Businesses](#) [Coupons](#) [More »](#)

SPONSORED BY:

- HOME LOCAL NATION/WORLD SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT AUTOS/BUSINESS LIFE TRAVEL OPINION OBITUARIES EXTRAS
- [Detroit](#) [Wayne](#) [Oakland](#) [Macomb](#) [Livingston](#) [Metro Detroit](#) [Michigan](#) [Politics](#) [Driving & Traffic](#) [School closings](#) [Columnists](#)

[Comment, blog & share photos](#)
[Log in](#) | [Become a member](#)

POWERED BY YOU AND THE **Detroit Free Press**
ON GUARD FOR 177 YEARS

Cockrel pledges to make Detroit a better place for its youth

BY CECIL ANGEL • FREE PRESS STAFF WRITER • MAY 2, 2009

Read Comments (1) Recommend (2) Print this page E-mail this article Share this article

Detroit Mayor Ken Cockrel Jr. made the city's youth some promises Friday at a rally geared toward giving Detroit's younger residents a voice.



Mayor Ken Cockrel Jr. made several promises.

(RASHAUN RUCKER/Detroit Free Press)



Dave Bing had to cancel his appearance.

Cockrel appeared at the Youth Voice forum put on by the Southwest Detroit Youth Development Council and discussed issues such as abandoned buildings, youth employment and public safety. Dave Bing was to attend the event, but he had to cancel at the last minute, organizers said.

Cockrel won a lot of points with the teens when he agreed to their agenda.

He agreed to expedite the demolition of a list of abandoned buildings near Detroit Public Schools in southwest Detroit by June 15.

He promised to allocate one-eighth of the jobs provided by an \$11.4-million youth employment grant to those living in southwest Detroit.

He also said he would schedule a meeting between Detroit Police Chief James Barren and a delegation of Youth Voice members, principals and parent association presidents by June 3.

Cockrel also said casino tax revenues pledged for parks and recreation would be used for that purpose and not to reduce the city's deficit.

They also asked Cockrel to sign a letter addressed to Detroit Public Schools Emergency Financial Manager Robert Bobb, asking him to meet with a delegation of Youth Voice members.

Cockrel said he would call Bobb on Monday about a meeting.

Contact CECIL ANGEL: 313-223-4531 or angel@freepress.com.

ADVERTISEMENT

AARP Auto Insurance From...

Over 50? Save \$388 on Your Auto Insurance In Minutes w/...

AARP.TheHartford.com

Central Michigan University

Quality, accredited degrees in Michigan and Online.

cmich.edu/offcampus

Seroquel XR® Information

(quetiapine fumarate). Find Support Information & See...

SEROQUELXR.com

More Wayne County headlines

ADVERTISEMENT

Minimum Bid AUCTION

RIVERFRONT AuctionRiverfront.com

In Your Voice | [READ REACTIONS TO THIS STORY](#)

Hide Comments ▲