



**GRANDMONT
ROSEDALE
DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION**

June 3, 2013

State Representative Rashida H. Tlaib
6th House District
State of Michigan

Re: Scrap Metal Reform Bills

Dear State Representative Tlaib:

The Grandmont Rosedale Development Corporation (GRDC) wholeheartedly supports your recently introduced legislation to help reform the scrap metal industry in Michigan. We must find ways to end the demand for stolen scrap metal that is fueling the cycle of crime in our neighborhoods!

We operate a Community Security Program to help provide crime prevention strategies for our neighborhoods. Unfortunately, we receive reports from area residents and business owners about incidents involving theft of scrap metal items in our neighborhood several times a week! This time of year we get frequent reports about:

- **Air Conditioning Units** removed from occupied and vacant homes and businesses. Often homeowners are not aware that their unit is missing, until the heating/cooling contractor informs them there is no unit;
- **Metal Gutters** removed from occupied and vacant homes;
- **Water Pipes and Electrical Wiring** removed from vacant homes;
- **Catalytic converters** stolen from victim's cars while shopping at stores, especially the two large chain drug stores on Grand River. Several doctor's offices in our area have also reported their patients and staff members have been victimized while parked in their parking lots.

The theft of metal from homes and businesses to sell for scrap has become an epidemic and is undermining our community and our property values. Please let us know if there are other ways we can assist in this effort.

Sincerely,

Tom Goddeeris
Executive Director