

OPINION PAGE

Manchester shouldn't be 'sketchy'

To the editor,

My sister came to pick me up just the other day and I told her to meet me at the Dunkin Donuts on Granite Street. "Oh, the sketchy one by CMC?" she asked. My sister does not even live in Manchester and she describes this area as "sketchy!"

My wife and I have lived on West Granite Street for a little over two years now. We have enjoyed our time here and at the end of the summer joined the neighborhood watch group that is known as the Granite/West Street Neighborhood Watch.

I will say that when we moved to the area, people helping us move said the area looked a little run-down and asked if were we serious about moving here. I had to explain to my closest friends

and family that it gets better the further up you go! This should not be the case.

While there has been some improvement in recent months, there is much to be done.

As members of the Community Services Committee of NeighborWorks Greater Manchester, my wife and I and a group of other citizens recently went before the Board of Mayor and Aldermen to support some ordinance changes aimed at neglectful landlords.

I encourage your paper to report on these proposed ordinances and to visit the blighted areas of the city, both on the east side and West Side of Manchester for yourself.

Tom Mooney
Manchester

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