

Zone Blitz Housing Team Report

Purpose

To analyze the availability of existing affordable housing options (including quality) in Zone 1 and develop recommendations to meet Zone 1's needs for affordable housing now and in the near future. Plan should address which community partners have primary responsibility for each action.

Team Members

Brendan Griesemer, City of Springfield

Overall theme - Ensure safe and sanitary housing through strict code enforcement

Weatherization & Energy assistance is a priority -

- Education and marketing not only how to do it but where and how to get help.
- Under this category also look into funding for energy assistance
- PACE for residential - "Save as you pay program"
- Get local businesses involved

Rental Property Solutions

- Landlord registration for single-family rentals (will require City Council approval)
- Annual rental inspections for "life safety" issues (will require City Council approval)
- Renter education programs

Focus on a small pilot project area

- Find a 4 to 6 block area that wants to improve itself
- Use an Request for Proposals (RFP) process to neighborhoods to determine location. Initial focus would require the neighborhood to be in the same school zone. Ask them to put "skin in the game".

Area Resource Manager

- Create a position residents can trust to guide them to better their housing situation.