

## **Zone Blitz Chronic Nuisance Property Team Meeting**

### **Purpose**

To identify the top contributing factors leading to chronic nuisance properties in Zone 1 and develop a plan to address both a reduction of these occurrences in the future and remediation of existing problems. Plans should address which community partners have primary responsibility for each action.

### **In attendance**

Chris Straw, City of Springfield Building Development Services director, co-coach

Pete Radecki, Neighborhood Advisory Council present, co-coach

Claudia Crighton, City of Springfield Citizen Resource Center

Brendan Griesemer, City of Springfield Planning & Development

David Hall, Springfield Fire Department

Janet Dankert, Community Partnership of the Ozarks

Sharon Alexander, Legal Services of Southern Missouri

### **Proposed Recommendations**

In September 2015, Ordinance 74 was revised to improve CNP enforcement. Create a report in March 2016 outlining activity levels for BDS related to CNP enforcement and make recommendations related to need for additional code changes and/or BDS staffing and budget increases if needed.

Implement a pilot Spring 2016 Cleanup in a portion of a neighborhood which will engage multiple City departments, NGOs, volunteer groups, donated waste hauling and other waste/recycling services, and a host neighborhood association. The cleanup will include volunteer efforts to remove refuse and undesirable vegetation from properties, separation of recyclable materials, curbside pickup along with traditional neighborhood cleanup efforts. City would wave landfill tipping charges for the pilot.

In July 2016 create a plan for future Spring Cleanup(s) that would eventually blanket all of Zone 1. This plan would be based on the experience of the pilot Spring 2016 Cleanup.

In cooperation with CPO and the City, create and deliver an educational program to landlords, tenants and home owners describing what healthy, safe living conditions are and the relationship between them and vibrant neighborhoods. Deliver this program through a written publication delivered to Zone 1 residents, on Website(s), and social media. This program should launch in mid-2016.

CNP hot spots can tend to harbor drugs and other illegal activities, create fear and destroy property values. In cooperation with the Springfield Police Department and neighborhood associations, develop a list of such hot spots and, consistent with the SPD philosophy of Community Policing, promote increases personal contact between police and general residents, as well as BDS enforcement oversight in these areas. The hot spot list should be prepared by January 2016.

Led in part by City legal department, explore ways to encourage and support home repair programs. In particular, investigate potential ways to development tax abatement for home repairs for means-tested homeowners and property improvement incentives for landlords. In addition, improve coordination, promotion and expansion of NGO efforts to repair homes.