



Beyond Blight Workshop Summary

Attendance & Feedback

- ✓ **Total estimated attendance:** 290
- ✓ **Total evaluations filled out:** 170
- ✓ **Most new/helpful information:**
 - Surprise at the amount of blight on private properties...
 - How many properties there are in Flint...
 - What blight is...
 - The high cost...
- ✓ **Most frequent Ideas/Thoughts:**
 - Get more youth involved...
 - Add deconstruction as a key activity for blight elimination...

WHAT PEOPLE ARE WILLING TO DO	WHAT PREVENTS PEOPLE FROM HELPING
MOWING: 75%	TIME: 77%
BOARDING: 33%	MONEY: 98.8%
VACANT LOT REUSE: 49%	SUPPLIES/TOOLS: 67%
NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP: 80%	LACK OF INFO. : 13%
	LACK OF TRAINING: 27%
	NEED MORE HELP: 64%
OTHER: youth jobs, getting people involved, collaboration/connecting groups, fundraising, art, rehab occupied homes, community gardening	OTHER: age, health, no police/protection, energy, organization, transportation



Beyond Blight: Kick-off Workshop Review (6.24.2014)

Attendance & Feedback

- ✓ **Total estimated attendance:** 90
- ✓ **Total evaluations filled out:** 43
- ✓ **What information was new/helpful:**
 - Surprise at the amount of blight on privately owned properties
 - The of the City of Flint's goal and depth of focus
 - Procedure for adopting a park
 - The cost of clean-up/blight elimination
 - The role the *Master Plan* plays in *Clean & Green*
 - Resources
 - Who the problem is
 - Private owned properties are not taken care of
 - How many properties there are in Flint
 - The ratio of private to public to commercial properties that need blight elimination work
 - Finding ways to make "runaway" property owners responsible/explaining the difficulties
 - Dumpster rental information
- ✓ **Ideas/Thoughts:**
 - More information on procedures for adopting parks
 - More information on the process of demolition
 - More in depth data
 - Briefer presentation/less people speaking
 - Heightened coordination (with nonprofit/community groups/neighbors etc.)***
 - Don't ask rhetorical questions-state and give direct information
 - Make more tri-fold brochures available
 - More information on problem property portal
 - More information on code enforcement***
 - Old homeowners are physically & financially incapable of doing more
 - Information on business engagement/partnerships-presence at workshops?***
 - Provide paint
 - More time for input, table work, and questions***

Information on private/public/vacant properties
 Give solutions
 Information about *Imagine Flint* website
 Coffee
 Charts/Graphs were too dense

***Items in bold/italics indicate multiple responses**

WHAT PEOPLE ARE WILLING TO DO	WHAT PREVENTS PEOPLE FROM HELPING
Mowing: 23	Time: 22
Boarding: 14	Money: 25
Vacant Lot Reuse: 18.2	Supplies/Tools: 17
Neighborhood Clean-up: 29	Lack of Info.: 3
	Lack of Training: 8
	Need More Help: 14
Other: code enforcement, curb appeal, blight elimination captain	Other: need clarification on liability laws
No Response: 17	No Response: 9

Workshop Satisfaction

DESCRIBE THE EVENT	WHAT DID YOU LIKE MOST?	DESCRIBE THE PRESENTATION	INCREASED INTEREST IN BLGHT ELIMINATION?	DESCRIBE THE TRI-FOLD BROCHURE
GREAT: 23.3%	INFORMATION SHARED: 46%	GREAT: 23%	YES: 62%	GREAT: 48%
GOOD: 40%	OPPORTUNITY FOR QUESTIONS: 33%	GOOD: 48%	MAYBE: 26.2%	GOOD: 35%
FAIR: 25.6%	OPPORTUNITY FOR FEEDBACK: 21.3%	FAIR: 18.2%	NO: 10%	FAIR: 14%
POOR: 9.3%		POOR: 11.4%		POOR: 2.3%
NO RESPONSE: 2.3%	NO RESPONSE: 8.2%		NO RESPONSE: 2.4%	NO RESPONSE: 5%

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS:

- Why can't the people building downtown Flint fund blight elimination?
- Why won't they hire unemployed residents to clean up the parcels and find the capacity to pay them?

- Why won't we hold GM and the U.A.W. accountable for the devastation that moving out did to the community? If they have \$600 million to build a paint plant on VanSlyke?
- What is the difference between the Framework and the Plan?

- How can we get the lower portions of Mott Park golf course mowed?
- Can they put a clean-up project into \$170 million grant over next 3 years?
- What kind of code enforcement complaints does the City get? How does the City prioritize its time and efforts?

- What happened to the Federal program from 4 years ago to do rehabilitations for local residents?
- Who is liable is someone is injured with mowing a lot with unknown owners?
- Will there be more funds available for the Salem Housing tool shed?
- How can a landlord abandon property but continue to have tenants paying rent?
- Will the blight elimination captain be a paid position?
- How can volunteers get front-end loaders provided to help with cleaning up illegal dump sites?
- How will code enforcement affect low-income families?
- How can banks be held accountable for the housing/properties they own?

- Boarding properties reduces crime, but doesn't that create/continue blight? What is the ultimate fix?
- What about prevention? / Does blight elimination deter crime?
- Of the privately owned properties, how many are owned by non-residents?

PEOPLES' PERCEPTIONS

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR BLIGHT REMOVAL?

The City (14) Community groups (5)

Everyone (9) Property owners (4)

The Land Bank (8) The state (1)

Citizens (6)

WHO SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR BLIGHT REMOVAL?

Everyone (14) The Land Bank (3)

The City (11) Community groups (1)

Residents/citizens (5) Banks (1)

Property owners (5)

Bold & italics indicates the top responses given for these questions



Beyond Blight: WARD 1 Workshop Review (7.17.2014)

Attendance & Feedback

- ✓ **Total attendance:** 39
- ✓ **Total evaluations completed:** 29
- ✓ **What information was new/helpful:**
 - What blight is and how it works
 - That funding can be a problem with any demos
 - The cost for demolition
 - How much property needs to be demolished
 - Buying/adopting/maintaining lots
 - Lots are mowed only once a year
- ✓ **Ideas/Thoughts**
 - Demolish all the houses in one block at once
 - Utilizing the youth to maintain lots
 - Get police to show up when calls are made

WHAT PEOPLE ARE WILLING TO DO	WHAT PREVENTS PEOPLE FROM HELPING
MOWING: 27	TIME: 8
BOARDING: 13	MONEY: 34
VACANT LOT REUSE: 19	SUPPLIES/TOOLS: 117
NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP: 35	LACK OF INFO. : 6
	LACK OF TRAINING: 10
	NEED MORE HELP: 22
OTHER:	OTHER: health, old age
NO RESPONSE: 6	NO RESPONSE: 1

Workshop Satisfaction

DESCRIBE THE EVENT	WHAT DID YOU LIKE MOST?	DESCRIBE THE PRESENTATION	INCREASED INTEREST IN BLGHT ELIMINATION?	DESCRIBE THE TRI-FOLD BROCHURE
GREAT: 27.6%	INFORMATION SHARED: 39.2%	GREAT: 24.1%	YES: 55.2%	GREAT: 17.2%
GOOD: 65.5%	OPPORTUNITY FOR QUESTIONS: 27.5%	GOOD: 65.5%	MAYBE: 31%	GOOD: 75.9%
FAIR: 6.9%	OPPORTUNITY FOR FEEDBACK: 21.6%	FAIR: 10.3%	NO: 6.9%	FAIR: 6.9%
POOR:		POOR:		POOR:
NO RESPONSE:	NO RESPONSE: 11.8%		NO RESPONSE: 6.9%	NO RESPONSE:
OTHER:				OTHER:

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS:

Would like to know more about purchasing side lots
 How can I come to ownership of the lot next door?
 Would like to know more about funding and/or blight elimination job opportunities

Activities for Eliminating Blight

Reuse of vacant land-planting gardens and clover fields
 Mowing-increases visibility and cuts down on pests
 Rehabilitation- for young mothers to use instead of demolishing them
 Boarding-safety
 Demolition- houses are an eye sore, houses are being stripped, eliminate squatters & drug dealers
 Trash Removal- smell, rodents
 Vacant Lot Reuse- allows neighborhood improvement, gardens look nice & they're productive

Blight Elimination Focus Area

-safety, safety of senior citizens
 7000 Orange Ln.- houses are burnt down with foundation still there
 Apartments on Carpenter Rd. across from Northwestern- turn into a park



Beyond Blight: WARD 2 Workshop Review (7.23.2014)

Attendance & Feedback

- ✓ **Total attendance:** 30
- ✓ **Total evaluations completed:** 15
- ✓ **What information was new/helpful:**
 - The cost
 - Specific improvements to be implemented in my neighborhood
 - Bloc grants, next door lots, partnerships with other groups
 - Data
- ✓ **Ideas/thoughts:**
 - Include more young people
 - More info on the painting of boarded up houses
 - More direct answers to questions
 - Info on jobs for youth
 - What kind of results are being seen?
 - More info on blight in Civic Park
 - Keeping contracts local
 - 50 youth @ \$10/hr for 30 weeks = \$600,000 → 1/10 of the cost for lawn care

WHAT PEOPLE ARE WILLING TO DO	WHAT PREVENTS PEOPLE FROM HELPING
MOWING: 31%	TIME: 20
BOARDING: 21%	MONEY: 26
VACANT LOT REUSE: 24.1%	SUPPLIES/TOOLS: 20
NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP: 17.2%	LACK OF INFO. : 2
	LACK OF TRAINING: 8
	NEED MORE HELP: 22
OTHER: youth jobs, advertise for new homeownership on vacant lots	OTHER: age, health
NO RESPONSE: 7%	NO RESPONSE: 2

Workshop Satisfaction

DESCRIBE THE EVENT	WHAT DID YOU LIKE MOST?	DESCRIBE THE PRESENTATION	INCREASED INTEREST IN BLGHT ELIMINATION?	DESCRIBE THE TRI-FOLD BROCHURE
GREAT: 27%	INFORMATION SHARED: 37.5%	GREAT: 33.3%	YES: 60%	GREAT: 33.3%
GOOD: 73%	OPPORTUNITY FOR QUESTIONS: 37.5%	GOOD: 66.7%	MAYBE: 33.3%	GOOD: 60%
FAIR:	OPPORTUNITY FOR FEEDBACK: 25%	FAIR:	NO:	FAIR: 6.7%
POOR:		POOR:		POOR:
NO RESPONSE:	NO RESPONSE:		NO RESPONSE: 6.7%	NO RESPONSE:

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS:

How to put together a neighborhood group? How to get a chipper to use in Iroquois Park?

KEY ACTIVITES FOR ELIMINATING BLIGHT

Boarding- creates a vicious cycle of scrappers destructing properties that become harder to rehab

Vacant Lot Reuse- hoop houses, gardens

BLIGHT ELIMINATION FOCUS AREA



Beyond Blight: WARD 3 Workshop Review (7.15.2014)

Attendance & Feedback

- ✓ **Total attendance:** 9
- ✓ **Total evaluations completed:** 9
- ✓ **What information was new/helpful:**
 - New options
- ✓ **Ideas/Thoughts:**
 - More people at event
 - Provide good concrete answers to questions during presentation
 - Additional properties

WHAT PEOPLE ARE WILLING TO DO	WHAT PREVENTS PEOPLE FROM HELPING
MOWING: 2	TIME: 7
BOARDING: 2	MONEY: 8
VACANT LOT REUSE: 2	SUPPLIES/TOOLS: 7
NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP: 3	LACK OF INFO. :
	LACK OF TRAINING: 2
	NEED MORE HELP: 4
OTHER: get more people involved	OTHER:
NO RESPONSE: 2	NO RESPONSE:

Workshop Satisfaction

DESCRIBE THE EVENT	WHAT DID YOU LIKE MOST?	DESCRIBE THE PRESENTATION	INCREASED INTEREST IN BLGHT ELIMINATION?	DESCRIBE THE TRI-FOLD BROCHURE
GREAT: 1	INFORMATION SHARED: 6	GREAT: 2	YES: 6	GREAT: 3
GOOD: 6	OPPORTUNITY FOR QUESTIONS: 6	GOOD: 7	MAYBE: 2	GOOD: 4
FAIR: 1	OPPORTUNITY FOR FEEDBACK: 5	FAIR:	NO:	FAIR:
POOR:		POOR:		POOR:
NO RESPONSE:	NO RESPONSE: 1		NO RESPONSE: 1	NO RESPONSE: 1
OTHER: informative				OTHER: received it late

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS:

What is the next step?

Why are ordinances not enforced?

Activities for Eliminating Blight

-removal of burnt buildings

-blight removal should be based on the resources attainable

Blight Elimination Focus Area

-pests, property value

-there is a lot of traffic from the north & east sides of the county that travels through this area (3rd, 4th, 5th wards) to go to MCC, U of M, downtown etc and what they see is major blight

-focusing on stabilizing neighborhoods on the eastside by mowing vacant lots will assist residents in feeling better about leaving home



Beyond Blight: WARD 4 Workshop Review (7.21.2014)

Attendance & Feedback

- ✓ **Total attendance:** 30
- ✓ **Total evaluations completed:** 22
- ✓ **What information was new/helpful:**
 - Resources to help
 - That there is a 5 year plan to eliminate blight
- ✓ **Ideas/Thoughts**
 - Have councilperson @ presentation
 - Don't talk about the Land Bank
 - Next time, use a different location/room—the echo made it hard to hear the speakers
 - Return CDBG funding to organizations that know how to use it
 - The City should help with lawn bags
 - Let volunteer firemen (trainees) from outside communities do controlled burns on vacant condemned properties

WHAT PEOPLE ARE WILLING TO DO	WHAT PREVENTS PEOPLE FROM HELPING
MOWING:22	TIME: 19
BOARDING:	MONEY: 41
VACANT LOT REUSE: 4	SUPPLIES/TOOLS: 18
NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP: 26	LACK OF INFO. :
	LACK OF TRAINING: 1
	NEED MORE HELP: 16
OTHER: fundraising for demos, getting people involved, community gardening, demolition	OTHER: disabled, authority to fundraise/guarantee that funds will be used for intended purpose, energy
NO RESPONSE: 48	NO RESPONSE: 3

Workshop Satisfaction

DESCRIBE THE EVENT	WHAT DID YOU LIKE MOST?	DESCRIBE THE PRESENTATION	INCREASED INTEREST IN BLGHT ELIMINATION?	DESCRIBE THE TRI-FOLD BROCHURE
GREAT: 27.2%	INFORMATION SHARED: 40.4%	GREAT: 23%	YES: 46%	GREAT: 27.3%
GOOD: 68.2%	OPPORTUNITY FOR QUESTIONS: 26%	GOOD: 73%	MAYBE: 41%	GOOD: 55%
FAIR: 4.5%	OPPORTUNITY FOR FEEDBACK: 34%	FAIR: 4.5%	NO: 9.1%	FAIR: 14%
POOR:		POOR:		POOR:
NO RESPONSE:	NO RESPONSE:		NO RESPONSE: 4.5%	NO RESPONSE: 4.5%
OTHER:				OTHER:

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS:

With declining revenue, how can we afford an extra 5% to do a job we already pay taxes for?

What about the \$12 million given to Smith Village to eliminate blight? Has it been spent yet?

Where will the money come from?

When is abandoned house 2222 Maryland Ave. going down?

Way to gain the authority to fundraise and guarantee that the funds will be used for the purpose raised

What to do about blight with people in residence

Activities for Eliminating Blight

-put people to work, restore our property value, get business back in the area

Demolition- because I've been looking at the same burned out houses for five or more years, houses beyond rehab need to be demolished, vacant buildings/houses only steers people away from doing business in Flint

Mowing- looks better

Code Enforcement- landlords need to be responsible for their property, code enforcement is premature until the worst housing is demolished

Rehabilitation- rehab will get residents back in their homes, improve our tax base, the City & the Land Bank should not be in the business of rehabbing

Trash Abatement- leaving trash brings more trash, cleaning an area enhances the neighborhood

Blight Elimination Focus Area

-clean up areas that have not yet hit rock bottom

-areas with a high crime and vacant buildings harbor criminal & gang activity

Risedorph Ave. branch to Averill, Davison Rd. branch to Averill—eliminate blight & crime

Dort Hwy.- it is important to get highly traveled streets cleaned up to attract more people

Potter School (nearby)-it is a “tipping area” where the most good will be gotten for the amount of money and time spent

Averill block—the areas around this block look pretty good & we could catch the “eye sores” before they spread

Idea: Dort Hwy where Delphi was—amusement park in Flint centered between two big ones (Cedar Point & Michigan’s Adventure), employ students from the colleges so they may stay year round instead of just for school season



Beyond Blight: WARD 5 Workshop Review (7.14.2014)

Attendance & Feedback

- ✓ **Total attendance:** 19
- ✓ **Total evaluations completed:** 15
- ✓ **What information was new/helpful:**
 - 1 of 4 properties are vacant
 - The high cost
 - The high percentage of privately owned properties
- ✓ **Ideas/Thoughts:**
 - The stickers were too small
 - Add deconstruction; a key activity for blight elimination
 - The tri-fold brochure needs to be more direct
 - More information on business partners
 - Orange on the tri-fold brochure is “too vague”
 - More information on the Land Bank
 - More information on tool sheds
 - Information on creative tactics across the United States

WHAT PEOPLE ARE WILLING TO DO	WHAT PREVENTS PEOPLE FROM HELPING
MOWING: 6	TIME: 9
BOARDING:	MONEY: 7
VACANT LOT REUSE: 2	SUPPLIES/TOLS: 9
NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP: 5	LACK OF INFO. : 4
	LACK OF TRAINING: 3
	NEED MORE HELP: 10
OTHER: art	OTHER: energy, organization, transporting
NO RESPONSE: 6	NO RESPONSE: 6

Workshop Satisfaction

DESCRIBE THE EVENT	WHAT DID YOU LIKE MOST?	DESCRIBE THE PRESENTATION	INCREASED INTEREST IN BLIGHT ELIMINATION?	DESCRIBE THE TRI-FOLD BROCHURE
GREAT: 1	INFORMATION SHARED: 8	GREAT: 2	YES: 7	GREAT: 4
GOOD: 12	OPPORTUNITY FOR QUESTIONS: 8	GOOD: 9	MAYBE: 5	GOOD: 9
FAIR: 2	OPPORTUNITY FOR FEEDBACK: 10	FAIR: 4	NO: 1	FAIR: 2
POOR:		POOR:		POOR:
NO RESPONSE:	NO RESPONSE:		NO RESPONSE: 2	NO RESPONSE:

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS:

- Small Grants- are they only to clean up? When will we know about proposal due date?
- Standing buildings that remain vacant for 5 or more years
- How can we work toward major scale, focused experiments?

Activities for Eliminating Blight

Deconstruction—innovative solution, repurpose valuable materials (including wood), generate revenue by selling assets, create jobs via recycling (partner with Habitat & Salem Housing), rebuilding etc, repurpose sinks, bathtubs, oak window seals, oak wood floors etc., cuts down landfill use, save natural resources, the sales generated from these resources can go back in the fund for property maintenance

Vacant Lot Reuse—innovative solution, farming, parks, planting, solar energy, clover

Code Enforcement—landlords need to be held responsible, fine businesses for horrid places, penalize the individual

Rehab. & Boarding—prevents houses from being demolished & destroyed by scappers

Boarding & Mowing—just band aids—don’t cure the problem

Mowing—it is very important to cut the grass for safety reasons, encourages walking, biking, outdoor play, lowers crime

Demolition—safety, exposure, improves quality of life, need to make way for new houses

Blight Elimination Focus Area

- vacant houses/abandoned property breed crime
- concentrate on houses that can be occupied

-tall grass and trash

-cross-section of community entities, combines park, commercial and housing

-neighborhoods where there are assets to build on (i.e. schools, major streets, businesses, universities)

M.L. King Ave.—starts in the 5th ward and ends in the 2nd ward—should be a focus area for improvement because of the amount of traffic the area receives

University Ave.—to be the link between the academic institutions at each end, use the linear form as a solar network within the city and to obtain revenue for the electricity produced, “small wins” lead to better, larger innovation; right brain needs to be invited to work on all this, conventional approaches in unconventional circumstances don’t work



Beyond Blight: WARD 6 Workshop Review (7.24.2014)

Attendance & Feedback

- ✓ **Total attendance:** 15
- ✓ **Total evaluations completed:** 13
- ✓ **What information was new/helpful:**
 - The 5-year plan
 - Demo list
 - What's being done & if not, why
 - How much work the city needs
 - Lot reuse
 - Who to contact for different problems
- ✓ **Ideas/thoughts:**
 - Smoother transitions between speakers
 - Form a committee to volunteer to contact owners of vacant properties to care for them

WHAT PEOPLE ARE WILLING TO DO	WHAT PREVENTS PEOPLE FROM HELPING
MOWING: 2	TIME: 7
BOARDING: 2	MONEY: 7
VACANT LOT REUSE: 3	SUPPLIES/TOOLS: 6
NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP: 4	LACK OF INFO. : 2
	LACK OF TRAINING: 3
	NEED MORE HELP: 5
OTHER: organizing groups to link, collaboration efforts	OTHER:
NO RESPONSE: 4	NO RESPONSE: 2

Workshop Satisfaction

DESCRIBE THE EVENT	WHAT DID YOU LIKE MOST?	DESCRIBE THE PRESENTATION	INCREASED INTEREST IN BLGHT ELIMINATION?	DESCRIBE THE TRI-FOLD BROCHURE
GREAT: 4	INFORMATION SHARED: 7	GREAT: 4	YES: 5	GREAT: 4
GOOD: 4	OPPORTUNITY FOR QUESTIONS: 5	GOOD: 5	MAYBE: 3	GOOD: 4
FAIR:	OPPORTUNITY FOR FEEDBACK: 8	FAIR:	NO:	FAIR:
POOR:		POOR:		POOR:
NO RESPONSE: 1	NO RESPONSE:		NO RESPONSE: 1	NO RESPONSE: 1

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS:

Would like to know more about boarding up vacant properties

KEY ACTIVITES FOR ELIMINATING BLIGHT

- preserve neighborhood stability
- cost effectiveness

BLIGHT ELIMINATION FOCUS AREA

705 Westcombe—the block across from empty Coolidge School has needed demolition for 5 + years, the entire block has deteriorated

Sunset Apartments—huge area of concern for Glendale Hills residents, it has shown steady decline



Beyond Blight: WARD 7 Workshop Review (7.29.2014)

Attendance & Feedback

- ✓ **Total attendance:** 29
- ✓ **Total evaluations completed:** 22
- ✓ **What information was new/helpful:**
 - The partnership between the Land Bank and Master planning
 - The magnitude of the problem and the efforts being made
 - Adopt-a-lot program info
 - That blight is already being worked on
 - How many blighted properties there really are
 - How funding/resources are allocated
 - The number of ways blight could be eliminated
- ✓ **Ideas/thoughts:**

WHAT PEOPLE ARE WILLING TO DO	WHAT PREVENTS PEOPLE FROM HELPING
MOWING: 6	TIME: 19
BOARDING: 2	MONEY: 11
VACANT LOT REUSE: 5	SUPPLIES/TOOLS: 7
NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP: 9	LACK OF INFO. : 3
	LACK OF TRAINING: 3
	NEED MORE HELP: 6
OTHER: rehab of occupied homes	OTHER: no police protection, unable
NO RESPONSE: 8	NO RESPONSE: 4

Workshop Satisfaction

DESCRIBE THE EVENT	WHAT DID YOU LIKE MOST?	DESCRIBE THE PRESENTATION	INCREASED INTEREST IN BLIGHT ELIMINATION?	DESCRIBE THE TRI-FOLD BROCHURE
GREAT: 6	INFORMATION SHARED: 17	GREAT: 7	YES: 9	GREAT: 7
GOOD: 15	OPPORTUNITY FOR QUESTIONS: 10	GOOD: 15	MAYBE: 9	GOOD: 12
FAIR:	OPPORTUNITY FOR FEEDBACK: 10	FAIR:	NO: 3	FAIR: 2
POOR:		POOR:		POOR:
NO RESPONSE: 1	NO RESPONSE: 1		NO RESPONSE: 1	NO RESPONSE: 1

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS:

Would like to know more about deconstruction
 Would like to know more about the Clean & Green program
 Would like to know more about Thread Creek

KEY ACTIVITES FOR ELIMINATING BLIGHT

Code enforcement—insists on owners stepping up, not an urgent activity bc it may take a while where other things can be done immediately, broaden code enforcement to include a way for people to solve the problem rather than runaway, will bring revenue and create a job or two
 Vacant lot reuse—potential to generate funds
 Deconstruction—potential to generate funds, environmentally friendly, some materials are irreplaceable and need to be salvaged
 Rehab—will provide a product bc we still need affordable & quality housing

BLIGHT ELIMINATION FOCUS AREA

Near Mott & Cultural—areas with high traffic/visible to visitors, stabilize areas still within reach
 Areas that could stabilize neighborhoods near vital landmarks
 Avoid massive demo
 Build on areas that have had investments made
 Eliminate properties in Floral Park & CBC Recycling
 Decker St.—rehab & demo houses nearby to promote safe access to the park
 Area west of Kearsley Park—needs attention, the area is easily overlooked, many activities at park, need nice area near Chavez Dr.
 Near Clifford, North of Lippincott—needs help, needs uplifting, discouraging for residents, encourages crime
 Kearsley Park—provide a sense of community
 Areas where blight is only just starting to prevent more blight
 Howard to Ferris, Tebo to Lynn St., Washington Ave/Willow St.—rebuild before they become totally dilapidated, make safer for neighborhood families and children



Beyond Blight: WARD 8 Workshop Review (7.16.2014)

Attendance & Feedback

- ✓ **Total attendance:** 9
- ✓ **Total evaluations completed:** 9
- ✓ **What information was new/helpful:**
 - Statistics, nature of the problem, what is being done
 - Demo funding availability
- ✓ **Ideas/Thoughts:**

WHAT PEOPLE ARE WILLING TO DO	WHAT PREVENTS PEOPLE FROM HELPING
MOWING: 2	TIME: 7
BOARDING: 2	MONEY: 7
VACANT LOT REUSE: 3	SUPPLIES/TOOLS: 6
NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP: 4	LACK OF INFO. : 2
	LACK OF TRAINING: 3
	NEED MORE HELP: 5
OTHER: organizing groups to link, collaboration efforts	OTHER:
NO RESPONSE: 4	NO RESPONSE: 2

Workshop Satisfaction

DESCRIBE THE EVENT	WHAT DID YOU LIKE MOST?	DESCRIBE THE PRESENTATION	INCREASED INTEREST IN BLIGHT ELIMINATION?	DESCRIBE THE TRI-FOLD BROCHURE
GREAT: 4	INFORMATION SHARED: 7	GREAT: 4	YES: 5	GREAT: 4
GOOD: 4	OPPORTUNITY FOR QUESTIONS: 5	GOOD: 5	MAYBE: 3	GOOD: 4
FAIR:	OPPORTUNITY FOR FEEDBACK: 8	FAIR:	NO:	FAIR:
POOR:		POOR:		POOR:
NO RESPONSE: 1	NO RESPONSE:		NO RESPONSE: 1	NO RESPONSE: 1

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

Would like to know more about trash pick-up solutions

KEY ACTIVITIES FOR ELIMINATING BLIGHT

Rehabilitation—gets people back in homes, preserves property, prevents & responds to blight, and could be less expensive than demolition, there are many good uses for abandoned homes, improves the quality of life for real people, often houses are not of a high enough value to be a loan collateral, some houses only need plumbing and to be put on the market for sale

Boarding—it’s inexpensive and immediate. It also preserves houses and reduces blight

Mowing—it’s inexpensive and can drastically change the look of a property, visibility

Demolition—some properties are a safety hazard, unsightly, must be done, people can’t hide on a vacant lot, there aren’t enough people to resell the house to, many homes are beyond saving/rehab.,

Code Enforcement—home owners need to be held responsible for their properties

Vacant Lot Re-use—long-term care replacing urgent remediation, less maintenance, easier to maintain

BLIGHT ELIMINATION FOCUS AREA

-safety, access

W. Atherton Rd. (between Greenbrook Ln. & Penbrook)—tall grass at traffic lights, can cause accidents, cutting it could increase safety

Tuxedo Ave.—it’s one of the biggest problem areas—concentrating on the middle area and letting the progress expand out to the rest of the neighborhood will bring about better results

Fenton Rd.—commercial buildings (i.e. Terry’s Lounge) need to come down faster to make room for new businesses that can employ people from the local area and improve the neighborhoods on both sides of Fenton Rd.



Beyond Blight: WARD 9 Workshop Review (7.31.2014)

Attendance & Feedback

- ✓ **Total attendance:** 16
- ✓ **Total evaluations completed:** 14
- ✓ **What information was new/helpful:**
 - Phone numbers
 - Yearly changes
 - High degree of consensus on areas to focus on in 9th ward
- ✓ **Ideas/thoughts:**
 - Make digital copies of tri-fold available @ imagineflint.com
 - Some sort of program is needed to rehab *viable* vacant housing, perhaps giving houses away to *eligible* new homeowners who would meet certain criteria
 - Coordination of resources between existing organizations to streamline efforts and maximize resources

WHAT PEOPLE ARE WILLING TO DO	WHAT PREVENTS PEOPLE FROM HELPING
MOWING: 6	TIME: 13
BOARDING:	MONEY: 5
VACANT LOT REUSE: 2	SUPPLIES/TOOLS: 7
NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP: 7	LACK OF INFO. :
	LACK OF TRAINING: 5
	NEED MORE HELP: 4
OTHER: connecting groups to blight elimination efforts	OTHER: age and health
NO RESPONSE: 4	NO RESPONSE: 1

Workshop Satisfaction

DESCRIBE THE EVENT	WHAT DID YOU LIKE MOST?	DESCRIBE THE PRESENTATION	INCREASED INTEREST IN BLIGHT ELIMINATION?	DESCRIBE THE TRI-FOLD BROCHURE
GREAT: 7	INFORMATION SHARED: 11	GREAT: 7	YES: 8	GREAT: 7
GOOD: 6	OPPORTUNITY FOR QUESTIONS: 7	GOOD: 6	MAYBE: 1	GOOD: 6
FAIR: 1	OPPORTUNITY FOR FEEDBACK: 9	FAIR: 1	NO: 1	FAIR: 1
POOR:		POOR:		POOR:
NO RESPONSE:	NO RESPONSE:		NO RESPONSE: 4	NO RESPONSE:

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS:

Would like to know more about volunteers

Would like to know how to contact someone on rehab, what else can I do to buy a lot next to me?

Would like to know more about rehab funding for low income families

Would like a list of those involved in actively addressing blight in the 9th ward—list of groups, contacts, resources

KEY ACTIVITIES FOR ELIMINATING BLIGHT

Code enforcement—tickets ≠ payment, should be self sufficient

BLIGHT ELIMINATION FOCUS AREA

Very visible areas

Saginaw St.—a main thoroughfare, a lot of car and foot traffic to McKinley Park and Thread lake, two things that can be financially beneficial for Flint and the 9th ward,

McKinley Park—attract Back to the Bricks participants, coordinate with improvements to S. Saginaw made by International Academy of Flint

City Gateway—potential for improvement, potential for sponsorship (Diplomat), partnering with a developer