

Pearl District Improvements

Monday, October 14

3:00 pm

15th Floor, City Hall

TIF District Process

- Baseline value is set; everything above is captured and given back for public improvements. Includes both property and sales tax.
- Existing TIF for Pearl has expired and been closed out.
- Large property construction or large retail driver is beneficial.
- Pearl associations should create list of anything coming on the books, what development will be recurring; then sit down to discuss feasibility before application process.
- Associations will need to collaborate on priorities of projects.
- Dwain stated that now is the time to do this.

Homeless

- Community Service Council and Mental Health Association are working together on initiatives, but cannot do it without the help of the City and neighborhood.
- “Way Home for Tulsa” – outreach program for those on the streets.
- Panhandling – separate from homelessness. Majority of homeless do not panhandle. Most panhandlers have a home & job, this is additional income.
- Soon to own 25 housing properties in 16 neighborhoods. Goal is to move homeless from streets to shelters to homes.
- 6,500 people (men, women, & children) move through Tulsa shelters in a year.
- What we can do:
 - Send a rep to the CSC meetings.
 - Take a housing tour beforehand.

Prostitution / Drugs

- Struggle with the Pearl as it is a transient area. As Kendall Whittier neighborhood has been “cleaned up,” probable some of their issues have moved to Pearl.
- Prostitutes likely live in the neighborhood. Majority of activity is between 11th and 8th Streets, Trenton and Troost.
- Efforts have been made with search warrants where prostitutes live; most come back.
- Most drug, meth houses are between 2nd and 4th Streets.
- TPD currently makes two sweeps per week to address drunks and panhandlers. If police presence is consistent, it moves the problem.
- Boarded up buildings & houses – they are making entry from the rear. Stay alert and report any issues.
- Crime is down 7-8% from last year; larceny makes up majority of crime in District.
- What we can do:

- Report problems right away so TPD can address them. Call Crime Stoppers 918-596-COPS or Mayor's Action Line 918-596-2100.
- Establish neighborhood crime watch. Carol Bush can help set up. Carol and TPD will attend association meetings to provide information.

Code Enforcement / Neighborhood Clean Up

- Cleaning up neighborhoods starts with positive approach, changing mindsets.
- Crutchfield "A Brush with Kindness" – partnership between Tulsa Habitat for Humanity, City of Tulsa, Crutchfield Neighborhood Association, and Hilti. Postcards sent to all residents, neighbors helping neighbors. <http://www.tulsa Habitat.org/volunteer/brush-with-kindness/>
- Possible volunteers to help with clean-up efforts: faith-based organizations, TU students, high schools (mandatory service hours).
- Slum landlords sometimes need to be dealt with in creative manner ("interventions").
- What we can do:
 - Schedule clean-up day for spring (City dumpsters booked through end of 2013. Can get free dump pass in the meantime for special projects).
 - Coordinate date with animal control – they sweep area week before clean-up day to ensure area is safe from animals.
 - Send postcards to all residents and business owners in the Pearl. Laura Hendrix can provide labels or Word file with addresses.
 - Send press release to Tulsa World to let the city as well as Pearl residents/owners know of the event and the positive effect of these endeavors.
 - Get to know neighbors, help neighbors in need.

Animal Welfare

- Have not identified Pearl as problem – don't get many calls for our district.
- Have 6-7 officers for entire city. Strictly response based now.
- During Crutchfield clean up, went door to door to perform animal count, sterilization and shot check. Wrote 300 citations in June during these efforts.
- What we can do:
 - See a stray or aggressive animal, call Mayor's Action Line 918-596-2100. Emergency after hours, call 911.
 - Schedule sweep one week before Pearl clean-up day.

Lighting / Sidewalks

- New street lights on hold for now (3-5 years already). There are 300 locations for new lighting on waiting list now.
- Sidewalks are responsibility of landowner. Currently, large backlog of sidewalk issues with the City. Are ranked in order of importance – arterial vs. non-arterial, ADA, etc.
- What we can do:
 - Call Mayor's Action Line 918-596-2100 to add lighting needs to waiting list.
 - Contact AEP to report street light outages - (888) 218-3919 or

<https://www.psoklahoma.com/outages/report/StreetlightProblem.aspx>

- Call Mayor's Action Line 918-596-2100 to address issues with sidewalks, will be ranked and added to list.
- Photograph images of poor sidewalks, inventory list, send to City.

Alleyways

- Improved alleyways – owned by City.
- Unimproved alleyways – deeded back to property owners.
- What we can do:
 - Give Ron Teeters a heads up before clean-up day. Will coordinate clean-up of alley with our efforts.
 - Before clean-up efforts, coordinate drug education with TPD so volunteers know what to watch out for.
 - Work with neighbors, landlords to add PSO lights to alleyways.

Attendees:

Brooke Hamilton, PDBPOA

Joe Westervelt, PDBPOA

Katy Brown, PDBPOA

Julian Morgan, PDA

Dwain Midget, COT Community & Economic Development

Captain Robert Heidlage, TPD

Laura Hendrix, COT WIN

Bob Jackson, COT WIN

Kevin Cox, COT WIN

Tim Cartner, COT WIN

Jean Letcher, COT Tulsa Animal Welfare

Tracy Nyholm, COT Traffic Ops

Brent Stout, COT Engineering Services

Jim Lyall, Community Service Council

Mike Brose, Mental Health Assoc

Alex Aguilar, Mental Health Assoc