

# PUBLIC SAFETY Working Group Meeting Notes – 04.11.17

Participants: (see attached sign in sheet)

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Co-chair, Lt. Trekelle Perkins of the Sanford Police Department, opened the meeting and facilitated a round of introductions. Joining him as co-chairs of this Working Group are Oscar Redden and John Wright. The ground rules for the meeting were reviewed.

# 2. Overview of the CNI planning process to date

Gayle Epp of EJP Consulting Group (EJP) provided an overview of the CNI planning process to date (see handouts). The Sanford Housing Authority and the City of Sanford are approximately eight months into a two-year planning process to develop a plan to transform the Goldsboro neighborhood, including Academy Manor. The Choice Neighborhoods Initiative (CNI) team is wrapping up the needs assessment phase which is the first of four phases of planning process. In this next phase of planning, seven working groups have been established to help the CNI team create a vision for the neighborhood and identify priority needs. Then, in the third phase, the working groups will develop the detailed strategies to address those needs and achieve the desired vision. Finally, the CNI team will prepare the Goldsboro Transformation Plan to reflect the outcome of the seven working groups to present to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in July 2018. At strategic points in the process, the CNI team will host community information fairs and other events to solicit feedback from the broader public.

# 3. Purpose and Goal of the PUBLIC SAFETY Working Group

Gayle Epp reviewed the expectations of this working group (see handouts). In particular, the PUBLIC SAFETY Working Group is charged with developing goals and strategies to (1) improve both real and perceived safety within the community, (2) change public perception from non-residents of safety within Goldsboro, and (3) work on community + police relations.

### 4. Review of Available Data and Key Findings

Gayle Epp shared some highlights from the existing conditions report based on detailed analyses of crime stats, resident survey results, Community Information Fair input, and stakeholder interviews. The draft Existing Conditions report – which includes numerous maps and graphics - will be posted on the CNI website at www.choosegoldsboro.com

# 5. Identify Priority PUBLIC SAFETY Needs

Based upon the existing conditions data and their knowledge of the community, Working Group members brainstormed a list of priority PUBLIC SAFETY needs in Goldsboro. The priority needs identified are as follows:

- 1. **Build trust between the community and the police:** Considered top priority by the working group. One way to do this is to sponsor activities between youth and the police. Star Lawrence said she is arranging a kickball event for youth and law enforcement. Need to change relationship with police; fear that community no longer knows police by name; need to improve this relationship.
- 2. Youth engagement: Another high priority to get their involvement in developing the plan as they are key to both prevention and intervention. It will be difficult to include them in the Working Group meetings given they are in school until 3pm every day but Star Lawrence agreed to hold a focus group with youth and report back on her findings at the next WG meeting. The previous PHDEP and Weed&Seed experiences may be relevant to getting youth involved in public safety issues. We should engage youth both in and out of programmed activities; try to include "thugs" as well. Younger kids can focus on recreational activities but once they are 13 or 14 more programming is needed around vocational opportunities, educational prep studies, job opportunities, etc. Can access youth at GFPC, Westside Community Center and through the churches. Also need to be deliberate in reaching out to street kids.

Other issues related to youth development include:

- ✓ Support for single mothers so they encourage positive behavior of their kids and engagement with law enforcement.
- ✓ Providing male role models.
- ✓ Parents are missing in action (PMIA) but are critical to youth development.
- ✓ Create venues for PAL and engagement with others.
- ✓ TOP -Teen Outreach Program which is a partnership between DOH-SC and the Sheriff's Department.
- ✓ Dr. Gyer Young men of excellence (SCPS)
- ✓ Summer youth employment funded by city has 50 slots for this summer; 8 week program, 20 hours per week; starts June 12<sup>th</sup>; partnership with CareerSource, GFP and City.
- 3. Lighting: Lack of lighting promotes criminal activity in parts of the neighborhood. Need to do a lighting 'assessment' similar to the test in Georgetown. Two block test area was created with different lighting and wattages for community review. Based on community input, new lights and bulbs are now being installed in Georgetown (with CDBG funding). Replicate this in Goldsboro. Lighting should not be obscured by overgrown trees; need bullet-proof covers; use call numbers for FL&P (on each pole) to report problems. Could also walk neighborhood with residents to identify/locate specific issues.
- 4. Loitering/hanging out: Occurs frequently under trees in neighborhood. Neighbors are sometimes bothered by this activity and noise. Some of it includes drinking which the community thinks is not an appropriate public activity. How distinguish between loitering and socializing?
- 5. Drug dealing/drug houses
- 6. Vacant/abandoned buildings
- 7. Gun violence
- 8. Reduce violent crime
- 9. Deal with "wannabe" gangs
- 10. Engage "Bokey Bikers" in planning effort

# 6. Who Else Should Join This Working Group?

- County sheriff
- Youth (get their input through a focus group)

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# 7. Bus trip to mixed-income communities in Tampa

The CNI Project Director invited members of the working group to participate in a full-day, site visit to the Tampa Housing Authority on Tuesday, April 25 to learn about the implementation of their CNI transformation plan, see the new housing and talk with staff and residents about their planning process. Transportation and lunch to be provided. Interested parties need to sign up by the end of the day, Wednesday 4/12 so that the CNI team has an accurate head count.

Next Meeting - Tuesday, May 2 at 1 pm at Sanford's Public Safety Complex



# Public Safety Working Group Sign-In Sheet (a)

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Suna fero at to of Santor	10 L	Dife Energy	1710 W. 15 th St. Sa.	1814 Pear Avenue	1305 W. 15 Street		1306 Sheppard Street	315 Celery Avenue	1709 W. 11 Street	3018 Pecan Avenue	1507 Southwest Road	1400 S. Persimmion Avenue	1314 Shepherd Avenue	1203 W. 12th Street	City of Sanford	Sanford Police Department, Community Relations	3739 Hugh Street, Port Orange FL 32129	Seminole County Sheriff	Rescue Outreach Mission	Wright Investigation	Brothers Keeper, Inc.	Organization Sanford Police Department
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