

**UNWA NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN  
NEIGHBORHOOD BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE  
GOALS, OBJECTIVES, PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS**

*Developing goals, objectives, and projects and programs refines the information from the UNWA neighborhood planning process into a set of specific actions. Statements made by Neighborhood Beautification Committee members at the October 14 Town Hall Meeting have been organized into draft goals, objectives, and projects and programs. As the committee continues to discuss the topic of Neighborhood Beautification, this information will be refined. When the committee has completed its work, this document will be the basis of a summary report.*

**Background.** UNWA has always been a community with beautiful parks and open spaces. The neighborhood has over 285 acres of parks, golf course and parkway. Burdsall Parkway has over 6 acres of tree-lined medians, plus there are medians on other east-west streets in the Riverside neighborhood. As trees have died in these areas, they have not always been replaced. Many areas could be enhanced with increased landscaping.

Over half of the properties in the neighborhood contain buildings that are in some form of deterioration ranging from a need for new paint to being dilapidated. The recent Abandoned Housing Survey, conducted by the City, identified 750 abandoned houses in the neighborhood as being abandoned.

**GOAL: IMPROVE THE GENERAL APPEARANCE OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

**OBJECTIVE1: REMOVE TRASH AND CLEAN-UP PUBLIC AND/OR HIGHLY VISIBLE AREAS**

PROJECT(S)/PROGRAM(S)

- Schedule heavy trash pick-up for problem areas as needed.
- Work with the Township Administrator to see that regular lawn mowing and refuse pick-up is performed at locations such as 26<sup>th</sup> Street at the I-65 overpass,
- Work with the Township Administrator to improve the effectiveness of the City's street cleaning program.
- The City should provide dumpsters to assist with neighborhood clean-up efforts.
- Residents should report illegal dumping of trash in the neighborhood to the proper authorities.

**OBJECTIVE 2: MAINTAIN PRIVATE PROPERTY**

PROJECT(S)/PROGRAM(S)

- Increased maintenance, particularly in neighborhood housing (front, back and side yards) and vacant lots is needed.
- More programs to improve dilapidated and vacant properties are needed.
- Need to build homes on vacant lots and conduct neighborhood clean-ups in the interim.
- Increased funding for rehabilitation programs is needed.
- Work to identify owners of problem properties and utilize code enforcement and other techniques to encourage or mandate that improvements be made.
- Increased code enforcement by DMD and Health and Hospital Corporation should be a primary means of dealing with unsightly buildings.
- The vacant housing survey should be used to begin addressing problem properties.
- Involve young people, especially couples, in the neighborhood possibly by providing incentives such as homeownership for them to stay or move back.

Visit <http://www.unwa.org/> for more information regarding the plan.

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- Sponsor a competition and award for well-kept properties in honor of Mattie Cooney.
- Clean-up projects should be considered at 22<sup>nd</sup> and Sugar Grove, 21<sup>st</sup> and Dexter, and the Bryant Heating lot.

**OBJECTIVE 3: CREATE EXCITEMENT ABOUT IMPROVEMENTS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

PROJECT(S)/PROGRAM(S)

- Implement a key improvement project that is highly visible as a way of exciting people to improve other parts of the neighborhood.
- Landscape Martin Luther King between 38<sup>th</sup> and Fall Creek – sidewalks, flower pots, street lights.
- Landscape the median on Burdsall Parkway – tree trimming, sponsors for maintenance, etc.

**OBJECTIVE 4: ENHANCE COMMUNICATIONS AND ORGANIZATION AMONG NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENTS TO CHANGE THINGS FOR THE BETTER**

PROJECT(S)/PROGRAM(S)

- Work with IPD to rid the neighborhood of illegal drug activity which is a major detriment to improving the area.
- Work with IPD to patrol the large number of liquor stores in the area and serve as a deterrent to problems at these locations.
- Work with IPD to increase Police Patrols near the Sunoco station which is becoming a problem area.
- Adults should work with youth to instill proper values and work ethic; mentoring or leadership training may be beneficial.
- Develop a neighborhood network, newsletter, and so forth to enhance communications that are vital to developing a coordinated improvement effort.
- Use publications and handouts to educate neighborhood residents about trash the pick-up and alley maintenance requirements/guidelines of the City.

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