

CM Randy DeFoor and CM Randy White-Neighborhood Blight and Clean-up Pilot Program

Summary

The purpose of the Neighborhood Blight and Clean –up pilot program is to create a successful road map with specific investments of infrastructure and clean up assistance in a neighborhood with high amounts of identified blighted structures to result in a reduction of crime and an increase in quality of life for the residents. This program will bring together existing City Departments, Municipal Code Compliance (MCC), Public Works, Parks Department, to work with the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office, on these investments. A successful Blight and Clean-up program will result in the creation of jobs, increased community pride, and a tracked and proven reduction in crime.

MCC has identified the Brentwood neighborhood as a candidate for the pilot program. Brentwood has 50 active nuisance and board up cases, 16 unsafe structures, cases of graffiti, and additional code enforcement concerns. MCC is prepared to provide cutting and clearing of overgrowth to brighten up the neighborhood. These services will be provided by Jacksonville Small and Emerging Businesses. Public Works will apply a Street Light Analysis and work with Jacksonville Sherriff’s Office to incorporate their recommendations on how to engineer the environment to deter crime. This may include LED lights, shaping existing trees canopies to allow for more light, and increased maintenance of sidewalks for increased visibility. The City departments and the Jacksonville Sherriff’s Office leveraging their resources and expertise with this funding will allow for a greater impact and successful program.