



DFC BLIGHT BOOTCAMP

OVERVIEW

Blight Bootcamp is a component of the Detroit Future City 2014 'Spring into Action' campaign, which seeks to create linkages around blight removal activities taking place across the city. The community driven initiative focuses on the following three (3) events to highlight and capitalize on existing endeavors: 1) Motor City Makeover 2) DFC Blight Bootcamp Day, and 3) ARISE Detroit! Neighborhoods Day. Blight elimination initiatives from the grassroots to the federal level are on-going in Detroit to improve quality of life. These initiatives, while significant, would benefit from connecting to additional resources to inform stakeholders and the community, provide technical support, link to community initiated plans and projects, and ultimately, stabilize neighborhoods. To address this, Detroit Future City has identified blight elimination as one its 2014 initiatives under the priority "Stabilize Neighborhoods." Detroit Future City Implementation Office, along with community partners, realize it is vital to acknowledge the work currently underway in Detroit's neighborhoods, make the proper connections between the work and the Strategic Framework, empower organizations to increase their scope and capacity, and shed light on the variety of blight interventions and tools available outside of demolition. Blight elimination has been deemed a priority by the City of Detroit. As a result, Blight Bootcamp serves as an opportunity to connect and support the current administration's on-going effort to address blight.

EVALUATION METRICS

- Number of participants in each event or workshop
- Feedback from attendees and community partners
- Number of DFC materials handed out

OBJECTIVES

- Create synergy by capitalizing on and highlighting existing community efforts to address blight elimination
- Facilitate the growth of scope and capacity of community initiated action to implement blight interventions by helping to define strategies and tools available beyond demolition through education, outreach and technical assistance
- Leverage local public and private tools and resources to support blight interventions and promote the stabilization, restoration and beautification of communities

RESOURCES

- Detroit Future City Implementation Office management and staff
- Partners (see Contributing Organizations)

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES & ACTIONS

| | |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A | ADDRESS QUALITY OF LIFE CHALLENGES THAT AFFECT ALL DETROITERS |
| B | USE VACANT LAND AS A TOOL FOR NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION |
| B5 | Pursue targeted neighborhood stabilization strategies. |
| 1 | EXPAND CAPACITY FOR THE LONG TERM: BUILDING ON STRENGTHS TO INCREASE RANGE |
| 1.4 | Focus on Detroiters |
| 3 | A MOSAIC OF TACTICS FOR A MOSAIC OF PEOPLE: DIVERSE PLATFORM OF OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE |



SCHEDULE

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

2014

INITIATIVE VITALS

CONTRIBUTING ORGANIZATIONS:

ARISE Detroit!, City of Detroit Department of Neighborhoods, Community Development Advocates of Detroit (CDAD), Detroit Future City Implementation Office, The Greening of Detroit, Michigan Community Resources

DFC INITIATIVE TYPE: Partner/Execute

DFC REPRESENTATIVES: Allandra Bulger, Victoria Olivier

INITIATIVE SCALE: Citywide

INITIATIVE DURATION: April 2014 – August 2014

RELEVANT PLANNING ELEMENTS: Civic Capacity, Neighborhoods

DFC APPROACH

In April 2014, the DFC Implementation Office launches a 'Spring into Action' campaign, which includes educational outreach at seven DFC district meetings. In addition, DFC cross promotes the City of Detroit's Motor City Makeover, Blight Bootcamp, and ARISE Detroit! Neighborhoods Day.

The DFC Implementation Office works with community partners to organize Blight Bootcamp and connect participants to resources, including a copy the Blight Removal Task Force (BRTF) Report. Attendees participate in a day of community learning including workshops addressing strategies to fight blight. An opening plenary session and a keynote session highlight the latest updates around blight-related initiatives with representatives from the Detroit Land Bank Authority, DFC Implementation Office, BRTF, ARISE Detroit!, and the City's Department of Neighborhoods. An 'Innovative Idea' Presentation features organizations that are leading innovative community-based activities. DFC receives evaluations from participants with feedback on the Bootcamp and additional resources that are vital to further blight remediation.

The 'Spring into Action' campaign culminates with the annual ARISE Detroit! Neighborhoods Day, a city-wide demonstration of community pride, service and improvement projects led by residents and community groups.



Image Source: Model D Media