

BLIGHT BOOTCAMP II

OVERVIEW

In its second year, Blight Bootcamp II is a collaborative effort that brings together residents and organizations for a day of community learning around resources and tactics that increase impact of community led blight elimination efforts. Blight Bootcamp II is a follow-up to the inaugural community event that took place in summer 2014. The community driven initiative was held in partnership with the Impact Detroit network.

The Detroit Future City Implementation Office (DFC) identified blight elimination as one of its 2015 initiatives under the priority "Stabilize Neighborhoods." DFC, along with community partners realizes it is vital to acknowledge the work currently underway in Detroit's neighborhoods, make the proper connections between the work and the Detroit Future City Strategic Framework (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 administrations' on-going effort to address blight.

OBJECTIVES

- Create synergy by capitalizing on and highlighting existing community efforts to address blight elimination
- Grow the scope and capacity of community initiated actions 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

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES & ACTIONS

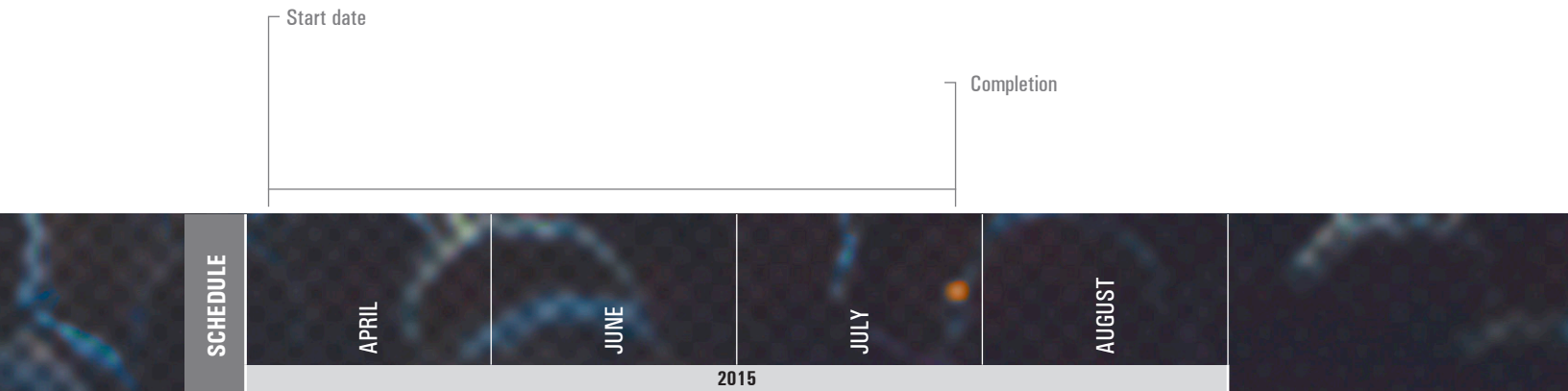
B	USE VACANT LAND AS A TOOL FOR NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION
B5	PURSUE TARGETED NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION STRATEGIES
1	EXPAND CAPACITY FOR THE LONG TERM: BUILDING ON STRENGTHS TO EXTEND RANGE
1.4	FOCUS ON DETROIT RESIDENTS
3	A MOSAIC OF TACTICS FOR A MOSAIC OF PEOPLE: DIVERSE PLATFORM OF OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE
A	ADDRESS QUALITY OF LIFE CHALLENGES THAT AFFECT ALL DETROITERS

EVALUATION METRICS

- Number of participants in each event or workshop
- Feedback from attendees and community partners

RESOURCES

- Detroit Future City Implementation Office (Grant)



INITIATIVE VITALS

CONTRIBUTING ORGANIZATIONS:

ARISE Detroit!, Black Family Development Inc., Community Development Advocates of Detroit (CDAD), Detroit Collaborative Design Center (DCDC), Detroit Future City Implementation Office, Impact Detroit Michigan Community Resources, Michigan Environmental Council, Sustainable Community Farms

DFC INITIATIVE TYPE: Partner/Executive

DFC REPRESENTATIVES: Allandra Bulger, Victoria Olivier

INITIATIVE DURATION: April 2015 - July 25, 2015

RELEVANT PLANNING ELEMENT: Civic Capacity, Neighborhoods

DFC APPROACH

After the success of Blight Bootcamp in 2014, Impact Detroit and the Detroit Future City Implementation Office partnered on Blight Bootcamp II, which was held on July 25, 2015. DFC worked closely with community partners to develop workshops and panels, identify speakers, and connect participants to resources. Nearly 150 Blight Bootcamp II attendees participated in a full day of community learning including 6 breakout sessions that focused on a wide variety of strategies to address community safety, land acquisition, planning for sustainability, data driven decision making and utilizing community designed media tools in the fight against blight. Participants also had an opportunity engage in dialogue with District Managers from the City of Detroit Department of Neighborhoods. Additionally, an opening plenary session featured a keynote session by the newly appointed City of Detroit Planning Director. Participants were provided an opportunity to engage with other community organizations and gain hands on experience through mobile workshops. Overall, 30 community organizations provided tactics and resources on numerous blight mitigation and elimination topics.

Blight Bootcamp II also featured an Innovative Ideas Pitch

Party, where groups were able to pitch their innovative blight elimination project. Bootcamp participants voted on their favorite ideas and three awards were granted in the following amounts: \$2,500, \$1500 and \$1000. The winners were announced at the DFC Ideas for Innovation event on July 30, 2015.