Hamilton’s Neighbourhood Action Strategy

General Issues Committee
October 2nd, 2013
Item 7.1

Annual Update Highlights

- Neighbourhood Development staff and Community Partners are in 11 neighbourhoods
- The community has presented 8 Neighbourhood Action Plans (NAPs) to GIC for endorsement
- The three remaining NAPs will be completed by the end of 2014
- Across the 8 NAP’s there are 315 Actions of which:
  - 137 of the Actions are underway (43%);
  - 33 are completed (11%)
Annual Update Highlights (con’t)

- City staff are collaborating and integrating their work within the priority neighbourhoods and with other partners to achieve success and leverage resources
  - 160+ staff are involved in either planning or implementation

- Neighbourhood Action Strategy Office provides oversight and coordination
  - To date, the City has committed $360,000 of the $2M earmarked in 2010 to support the NAS
  - This has leveraged $2.6M in direct investments from external sources, a 7:1 return on investment
  - Millions more have been invested by the City through ongoing operating & capital investments

Neighbourhood Action Strategy – Sampling of Partners

- Adult Basic Education Association
- Affiliated Services for Children and Youth
- CATCH Quigley Road location
- Downstairs Kitchen (St. Giles Church)
- Elizabeth Fry Society
- First Ontario
- Fit Active Beautiful
- Good Shepherd
- Green Venture
- Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion
- Hamilton Community Foundation
- Hamilton Conservatory for the Arts
- Hamilton Police Services
- Hamilton Public Library
- Hamilton Roundtable Poverty Reduction
- Hamilton Skateboard Assembly
- Hamilton Wentworth Catholic School Board
- Hamilton Wentworth District School Board
- HARRRRP (Hamilton Association for Residential and Recreational Redevelopment Programs)
- Hillcrest Ontario Early Years Centre
- Homestead Christian Care
- Housing Help Centre
- Hamilton Hamiton
- John Howard Society
- Junior Youth Empowerment
- Kiwanis Boys and Girls Clubs of Hamilton
- McMaster School of Nursing
- McMaster University
- Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities
- Mohawk College
- Niwasa Early Learning and Care
- North Hamilton Community Health Centre
- Pathways to Education
- Perkins Centre
- Robert Land Community Association/Eva Rothwell Centre
- School of Nursing
- Service Ontario
- Sherman Hub and Mission Services
- School of Social Work
- Social Planning and Research Council
- St. Charles Adult Education
- St. Mathews House
- Structure Consulting - Jeff Wingard
- Threshold School of Building
- University of Toronto
- Victory Gardens
- Volunteer Hamilton
- Wesley Urban Ministries
- West Hamilton Youth Soccer
- YMCA
- Youth Outreach work
- YWCA
Neighbourhood Action Strategy - Accomplishments

- Community Development support to resident-led planning teams/associations
- Alignment of Funding model to Neighbourhood Action Strategy
**Evaluation Update**

• In September 2010, Council approved $2,000,000 from the Unallocated Capital Levy to support the Neighbourhood Development Strategy, with a focus on:
  - Improving “Code Red” neighbourhoods; and
  - Better integration between the City and community actions at a neighbourhood level

• Evaluation has been a priority since the beginning

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**Evaluation Update (con’t)**

• **Comprehensive** – broad in scope and seeks to intervene at a variety of different levels

• **Multi-sectoral** – encourage partnering and collaboration across a number of different sectors

• **Long-term** – there is an understanding that complex issues take time to solve

• **Developmental** – they tend to focus on assets and capacity building
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Process: How well is the Neighbourhood Strategy working?</th>
<th>Outcome: How is the Neighbourhood Strategy affecting people’s lives?</th>
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| **Evaluation of the Community Development Approach during Intervention Planning**  
(P.I. Sarah Wakefield, University of Toronto) | **Hamilton Neighbourhoods Study**  
(P.I. James R. Dunn, McMaster University) |
| ▶ Formative process evaluation  
▶ Qualitative interviews with Community Developers and resident-led Planning Teams, examining the process of community development, including 1) how CDWs and planning team members developed and worked towards goals; and 2) barriers and facilitators to community engagement and implementation  
▶ **Timeline:** January 2012 – June 2015 | ▶ Longitudinal study of intervention outcomes  
▶ Door-to-door surveys to be conducted with randomly selected residents in six neighbourhoods (Stipley, Rolston, Keith, McQuesten, Stinson, and Beasley) before and after implementation  
▶ **Timeline:** Fall 2011 - Winter 2014, with ongoing follow-up at two year intervals. |
| **Evaluation of Plan Implementation**  
(S. Wakefield and SPRC) | **Neighbourhood-Level Indicators**  
(P.I. Jeff Wingard, Structure Consulting) |
| ▶ Process evaluation of plan implementation  
▶ Progress tracking surveys, interviews and focus groups with key actors and residents  
▶ **Timeline:** Baseline report completed in April 2012. Repeated as needed, likely after 3 years. |

### Evaluation Partners

- McMaster University - Dr. James Dunn, Hilary Gibson-Wood, Angela Di Nello
- University of Toronto - Dr. Sarah Wakefield, Madelaine Cahuas
- Social Planning and Research Council - Sara Mayo, Carla Klassen
- Structure Consulting - Jeff Wingard
- Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion - Evelyn Myrie
- Hamilton Community Foundation – Matt Goodman
- City of Hamilton – Dr. Colin McMullan, Suzanne Brown, Paul Johnson
Hamilton Neighbourhood Study: Highlights from Stipley and Stinson

DR. JAMES DUNN
GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE, CITY OF HAMILTON, OCTOBER 2013

McMaster University
crunch Collaboratory for Research on Urban Neighbourhoods, Community Health & Housing

About the Survey

- Part of a multi-pronged evaluation of the Neighbourhood Action Strategy
- Randomly selected households (approx. 300 per neighbourhood); face-to-face surveys with an adult resident in 2012
- 2 neighbourhoods surveyed in 2012, 4 in 2013 + comparison group
- Longitudinal study – same people will be surveyed again in 2 years to detect change in measures
- Professional 2nd language interpretation available
- Elements of the study are drawn from the evaluation of the UK’s New Deal for Communities (NDC) Initiative (2001-2010)
- Key distinction in NDC was between ‘people-based’ and ‘place-based’ impacts of the policy intervention
Stipley Highlights
(a neighbourhood in the Stadium precinct which is also part of the South Sherman neighbourhood)

- 89% Satisfied or Very Satisfied with their Residence
- 73% Satisfied or Very Satisfied with their Neighbourhood
- 94% feel safe in the neighbourhood during the day; 59% feel safe at night
- 94% describe Stipley as Friendly or Very Friendly
- Survey results of neighbourhood concerns and priorities strongly reflect those as found in the Neighbourhood Action Plan, e.g. need for:
  ◦ Places to buy healthy food
  ◦ Places to have a meeting (cafes, libraries, community centres, etc)
  ◦ Addressing concerns around sex work, drug use, and traffic safety

Stinson Highlights

- 86% Satisfied or Very Satisfied with their Residence
- 72% Satisfied or Very Satisfied with their Neighbourhood
- 93% feel safe in the neighbourhood during the day; 56% feel safe at night
- 87% describe Stipley as Friendly or Very Friendly
- Survey results of neighbourhood concerns and priorities strongly reflect those as found in the Neighbourhood Action Plan, e.g.
  ◦ Concentration of institutional homes & need to better engage residents
  ◦ Enhance community pride through cleaning up litter, graffiti and derelict properties
  ◦ Address concerns around drug use, sense of community, sex work, and litter
Thank You!

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Our Guest:
Jim Diers

Community Builder and former Director of Seattle's Department of Neighbourhoods
BUILDING GOVERNMENT-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
City of Seattle
Department of Neighborhoods
KEYS TO GOVERNMENT-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Move beyond siloed thinking
to focusing on whole places

Little City Halls
Move beyond starting with needs
to starting with strengths
Neighbourhood Matching Fund

Playgrounds
Parks

Environment
Food Security

Renovated Facilities
Cultural Centers

Youth Development
Public Art

Move beyond top-down
to community-driven

Neighbourhood Planning
International District
Columbia City

Bikeworks

People working on a bicycle indoors.
Questions