



CITY OF DANBURY
OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE

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Livable Neighborhoods 2015
“Building a Better Danbury”

June 2015

June 29, 2015

Honorable Mayor Boughton and City Council Members:

Below is a table highlighting UNIT activity from the time of last month’s City Council report. This does not include any UNIT activity regarding follow up and re-inspection work from previously noted issues. The UNIT works to ensure that each and every issue is resolved as quickly as possible.

| Time Period | May 21 – June 29, 2015 |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Number of Quality of Life Issues | 117 |
| Year to Date - 2015 | 512 |

The top issues addressed by the UNIT were:

- Garbage/Debris and Blighted property (41)
- Front lawn parking (17)
- Miscellaneous (15)
- Abandoned vehicles/parking violations (11)
- Abandoned/vacant property (9)
- Exterior Blight order/Notice of Violation (8)
- Overcrowding/Unsafe living conditions/Unpermitted construction (6)

WELCOME JEFF PRESTON:

Effective July 1, 2015, Jeffrey Preston will be joining the UNIT Staff. For over the last 8 years, Jeffrey has been managing the customer service response in the CityLine 311 office. He has vast knowledge of Danbury and of the work that gets done in the UNIT. His transition into our department will be seamless. Jeff’s primary role will range from administrative support for the department, as well as following up on resident complaints and performing property inspections. Welcome Jeff!

PARTNERSHIP WITH FCI IS BACK:

On Wednesday, July 1, the UNIT will resume its partnership with the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) as inmates from FCI will be providing community service to Danbury. Immediate tasks scheduled are painting projects and litter pickup. Every two weeks, the UNIT will pick them up and complete various tasks around the city.

ABANDONED/VACANT PROPERTIES:

The summer months are the hardest on neighborhoods that have vacant homes. Unmanaged properties end up sticking out and becoming an eyesore in the neighborhood due to high grass and overgrowth of bushes/vegetation. The UNIT communicates with property management companies on a regular basis to ensure that these properties are adequately maintained. If needed, blight orders are also sent to the lenders of these properties.

EXTERIOR AND STRUCTURAL BLIGHT CITATIONS/NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS:

Orders written by UNIT This period: 8
(YTD): 45 (Includes Notice of Violations)

177 Southern Boulevard: An exterior blight order was sent to the property management company as a result of this vacant home not being routinely maintained. The grass is high and the house is not secure.

21-23 Stevens Street: An order was sent to the property owner as a result of several issues that continue to be repeated violations. Vehicles parked on the front lawn, unregistered vehicles and garbage/rubbish around the property. Property owner also advised that he must install some type of preventative measure for front lawn parking and repair the damage the lawn.

102 West Wooster Street: An exterior blight order was sent as an extreme result of vehicles being parked on the front lawn. There is even a makeshift driveway that wraps around the rear of the house. Property owner also advised that he must install some type of preventative measure for front lawn parking and repair the damage the lawn. The property owner is the same owner of 21-23 Stevens Street (above).

23 Terre Haute Road: An exterior blight order was sent to the property owner as a result of an inordinate amount of logs and unsplit wood that was dumped on the front lawn. This has been repeated activity and homeowner was advised that pile must be removed.

1 Housman Street: An exterior blight order was sent to the bank as a result of this vacant home not being routinely maintained. The grass is high and needs to be mowed routinely..

15 Old Newtown Road: A blight order was sent to the owners of this commercial building for removal of graffiti. The owners had been advised several months ago, but haven't completed it.

98 East Liberty Street: A blight order has been sent to address a very large pile of wood that was dumped in the rear of the property and is being used as a commercial lot for splitting

and selling firewood. Also, garbage around the property and unregistered vehicles need to be taken care of.

89 Stadley Rough Road: A blight violation notice was sent to the property owner to have the lawn mowed and routinely maintained. Originally, upon calling the homeowner, she was very combative and hung up on me.

311 Call Center Report: June 2015

The month of June saw the 311 Call Center receive approximately 472 calls with phone number requests being the most-requested item, totaling 142 for the month. Pothole reports totaled 58 for the month, while residents seeking information on the spring yard debris pickup program placed nearly 30 calls. Residents seeking information on the recycling truck placed 12 calls while another 23 calls were placed by residents seeking information on how they can dispose of household garbage. As the summer months progress, residents are reminded that it is their responsibility to keep debris off of the catch basins in front of their homes; keeping the catch basins clear will help to prevent flooding during the heavy summer rainstorms. There are also many events going on within Danbury during the summer and the 311 Call Center will utilize all available resources to keep the most pertinent information available for the public.

If we can be of any assistance to you or residents in your ward please contact us at 796-8026 or 311.

Sincerely,

Shawn Stillman
Coordinator, Office of Neighborhood Assistance