



CITY OF DANBURY
OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE

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Livable Neighborhoods 2016
“Building a Better Danbury”

January 2016

January 25, 2016

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	December 28 – January 25, 2016
Number of Quality of Life Issues	62
Year to Date - 2016	62

The top issues addressed by the UNIT were:

- Garbage/Debris and Blighted property (17)
- Front lawn parking (11)
- Exterior Blight Orders/Notice of Violation (9)
- Unregistered vehicles (8)
- Overcrowding/Illegal Apartments and Construction (6)
- Abandoned vehicles/parking violations (5)

The mild weather and lack of snow has enabled our department to follow up and close out many open service requests. Additionally, the UNIT successfully closed out a dozen open blight orders, as compliance has been accomplished in each one. The UNIT continues to eliminate graffiti tags around town, including the bridges along I-84. Unfortunately, many of the same areas continue to be tagged, however, with our continued vigilance in cleaning it up, the activity has decreased overall. We have requested for two motion sensor cameras and plan to strategically place them in locations of repeated activity. Making an arrest will send a profound statement that our department takes this seriously, and this activity will not be tolerated in our city.

EXTERIOR AND STRUCTURAL BLIGHT CITATIONS:

Orders written by UNIT (YTD): 9 (Includes Notice of Violations)

Below is a review of the Exterior Blight Citations sent this past period:

Exterior Blight Citations:

- **16 Chappelle Street:** In response to resident complaint regarding blighted properties on the street, UNIT issued order for the removal of garbage and rubbish around the exterior of the property, including the front porch.
- **36 Highland Avenue:** Issued order for the cleanup of garbage/litter, mostly discarded furniture and large bulky items around the exterior of the property. Within a week, property owner cleaned everything. Order has been closed.
- **4 Irving Place:** Issued order to remediate the issue of continued overflow of garbage cans left out in the front of the property, none with any lids, causing garbage/litter to spill on the property, neighboring property, as well the street. Additionally, there are some bulky items of rubbish around the property that need to be cleaned up.
- **406 Main Street:** Issued order for the removal of garbage and rubbish in the rear of the property, including a large pile of plastic trash bags. Additionally, retaining wall covered with graffiti also has been included on the order and is required to be covered up.
- **32-34 White Street:** Issued order to the property owner of this downtown restaurant and apartment property where the dumpster has routinely been noted as overflowing, with litter and other garbage continuously found on the ground around the dumpster in the alleyway. Repeated discussions with the property owner have not resulted in much success as this problem continues to occur. Also recommended on the order that property owner place a fence in the alleyway to help prevent undesired activity in the alleyway.

Notice of Violation letters:

- **12 Balmforth Avenue:** Sent notice to the owner of this small apartment building where the tenants consistently leave bulky discarded furniture items out by the dumpster, often leaning them on the neighbors' fence. Since there are multiple apartments, it is difficult to enforce the cleanup due to not knowing which tenants left the items there. Our letter is addressing the need for the out of town property owner to more routinely maintain the property and educate the tenants to not leave furniture and other large items out by the dumpster.
- **8, 10 and 12 Beaver Brook Road:** UNIT was referred to 12 Beaver Brook for a complaint of illegal auto repair business and upon inspection noted all three properties with the same type of blighted issues. Front yard parking has eroded away the front lawns and each property required cleanup of garbage and unregistered vehicles. These

properties are all owned by the same person. Our department will meet with the property owner to discuss the cleanup of each property and the need to routinely maintain.

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