



NEXT DETROIT NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVE OVERVIEW

Next Detroit Neighborhood Initiative (NDNI), a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization which focuses on the transformation of Detroit neighborhoods through reinforcement, revitalization and redevelopment efforts or initiatives. Our “on the ground” experience enables us to provide strategic models for safety management, blight remediation, foreclosure prevention and other critical success factors in stabilizing Detroit neighborhoods. We strive to improve the quality of life in these areas by linking community based organizations to resources to fund initiatives that address neighborhood challenges. Through community engagement, collaboration with philanthropic leaders, and the coordination of governmental resources, NDNI bridges gaps around the neighborhood development delivery system in our city to build a stronger Detroit.

- **Reinforce:** Strategies are designed to strengthen neighborhoods that possess the characteristics of a stable tax base inclusive of moderate recreational activities, have a high percentage of home ownership, requiring minimal investment in the current housing stock.
- **Revitalize:** Goals are to infuse a combination of private, non-profit and governmental resources to provide intervention strategies to reverse negative social and economic trends that are impacting an otherwise stable neighborhood.
- **Redevelop:** Plans are to completely overhaul an area where extreme blight and abandoned structures exist and create an entirely new land use strategy for the neighborhood which will benefit citizens in the existing and surrounding areas.

OSBORN NEIGHBORHOOD TYPOLOGY

The Osborn neighborhood is a culturally diverse community of approximately 37,000 moderate-income children and families. Osborn is one of the few neighborhoods in the city that has seen a growth in population of 11%. The majority of that growth was in children under the age of 18 (35.8%). There are more children concentrated in the Osborn neighborhood, than anywhere else in the state, per capita.

As a result of their unique demographic, the priority of Osborn is creating a neighborhood that is safe and secure for children - physically, socially and economically. There are 9 parks, playfields, and play lots and 11 (3 of the 11 are slated for closure) public and private schools that support the large child population in Osborn. However, there is a surprisingly low enrollment of Head Start recipients in the target area, which demonstrates a clear need for early childhood and pre-school programming.

The Osborn neighborhood is a relatively stable community of brick homes surrounded by major thoroughfares, with opportunities for a substantial and thriving business district. There were 36 building permits pulled just last year, demonstrating a moderate level of activity for the neighborhood. However, this neighborhood is also beginning to experience signs of serious decline with multiple abandoned homes, illegal dumping and growing youth related violence. In the area near State Fair, Gratiot, and south of 7 mile, there is a concentration of dangerous buildings, vacant lots, high crime and suspicious fires.

While illegal dumping and non-working street-light reporting is scattered throughout the neighborhood, the area east of Schoenner and west of Hoover, between 6 and 8 mile has a very high concentration of dumping. Most of the Osborn neighborhood is subject to high levels of auto theft, assault and larceny. Statistics show the Osborn neighborhood has the highest crime levels of all six Next Detroit Neighborhoods. Thus an aggressive crime strategy, coupled with securing dangerous buildings and vacant lots will complement a youth-focused community building strategy that will position this community as a “neighborhood of choice” for kids.

NEXT DETROIT NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVE

Glossary of Resources

B&SE-Building and Safety Engineering

B&E Task Force- Detroit Police Dept. Breaking and Entering Task Force

DAH- Department of Administrative Hearing

DCI- Detroit Community Initiative

DPW- Department of Public Works

DWDD- Detroit Workforce Development Department

DEA- Department of Environmental Affairs

DEGC-Detroit Economic Growth Corporation

DPD- Detroit Police Department

DHWP- Department of Health and Wellness Promotion

DHS-Department of Human Services

DPS- Detroit Public School

DWSD- Detroit Water & Sewerage Department

HUD- Housing & Urban Development

LISC- Local Initiatives Support Corporation

MEDC- Michigan Economic Development Corporation

MPD-Municipal Parking Department

MDOT- Michigan Department of Transportation

MPRI- Michigan Prisoner Re-Entry Initiative

MSHDA- Michigan State Housing Development Authority

MOCA- The Mayor's Office of Community Affairs

NCH-Neighborhood City Hall

ONCR-Office of Neighborhood Commercial Revitalization

OTBD- The Mayor's Office of Targeted Business Development

P&DD- Planning and Development Department

PLD- Public Lighting Department

REC- Recreation Department

NDNI OSBORN COMMUNITY WORK-PLANS

Issue A: Youth and Community Building

Youth centered community building

Goal: To create a safe and nurturing environment for Osborn families with special emphasis on youth development and recreation.

City of Detroit Public/Private Efforts

1). Improve parks and playgrounds.

Lead Agency: Think Detroit Pal

Partners: Detroit Recreation Department and Wayne County, Community Volunteers

Outcome Statement: Children and families will have safe, clean inviting places to play and gather by the improvement and renovation of Calimera, Wishegan and Bessy Parks beginning in 2008 and hire staff from the community.

Strategy:

- Provide new playground equipment, landscapes, swings, protective surfacing, basketball improvements, fencing, site amenities and concrete walkway for Calimera Park.
- Participate in a recreation planning process for playfields, park improvements and facility needs in Osborn.
- Hire staff to supervise playgrounds and activities.
- Work with DPS to acquire, improve and utilize Bessy Field.
- Increase programs for youth at playgrounds.
- Utilize celebrity personalities to attract youth to recreational programs and clinics.

Timeline: 2007-2011

2). Create neighborhood resource center and youth activities.

Lead Agency: Communities in Schools

Partners: DPS, Recreation, Human Service Agencies, DWDD, United Way and Community Volunteers

Outcome Statement: Develop a centrally located multi-use community resource center that promotes social and human services, education, recreation, athletic, environmental and leisure activities to benefit Osborn residents.

Strategy:

- Acquire and convert a closed DPS school into a community recreation/education center.
- Identify resources to support adult volunteers and/or staff for 8 weeks in the summer for at least two new youth recreational programs.

NDNI OSBORN COMMUNITY WORK-PLANS

Issue A: Youth and Community Building

- Develop a process for incorporating city services in the resource center.
- Partner with faith-based organizations to provide transportation for youth to and from activities.
- Promote the Adopt-A-Park/Lot Program and encourage the establishment of community gardens and greenspace.
- Coordinate involvement with seniors and youth in community greenspace and anti-litter prevention projects.
- Create programs specifically designed for senior citizens.
- Utilize senior citizens to teach and mentor the community through various programs and classes at the resource center.
- Educate students on the importance of keeping our neighborhood clean through anti-litter campaigns in schools.
- Work with DPS to create an adult education program to assist adults in attaining their GED.

Timeline: 2007-2011

3). Create safe routes to schools.

Lead Agency: Philanthropic Affairs, MDOT

Partners: Skillman, Osborn Community, GSD, DPW, DPD, BS&E, DPS and DEA

Outcome Statement: The community, city departments and police will ensure that each child has a safe route to school by improving sidewalks, traffic lights, landscaping, removal of dangerous debris, animal management and boarding all open and dangerous buildings on school routes.

Strategy:

- Organize DPS Schools: Brenda Scott MS, Fleming, *Genesis*, Osborn HS, Pulaski, Richard, Trix and *Von Stuben* to register for statewide safe routes to school initiative (*On the DPS closure list.*)
- Identify and remediate dangerous structures and illegal dumping sites that put children at risk on their way to school.
- Establish routes to and from school that will be monitored to ensure children's safety through community and police efforts.
- Coordinate between DPS, DPD, Frontline departments and Wayne State to create a Safe Route to School plan to prioritize schools and sites for coordinated demolition and clean-up.
- Partner with MDOT to target financial resources for coordination of services.
- Engage school age youth to assist in determining unsafe routes to school and developing a cultural shift that encourages use of sidewalks
- Use greenspace concepts to connect and expand the Conner Creek Greenway to create a walkable community.

Timeline: 2007-2008

NDNI OSBORN COMMUNITY WORK-PLANS

Issue A: Youth and Community Building

4). Improve life skills and provide conflict resolution training

Lead Agency: City Year, Private Agency or Non-Profit Organization

Partners: DHS, DHWWP, DWDD, DPD, DPS, Detroit Parent Network, MAN Network and Community Volunteers

Outcome Statement: Provide at least 500 youth with access to conflict resolution and life skills programs and services through area churches and the resource center.

Strategy:

- Create focus groups for youth according to age.
- Partner with ministers, plain-clothed DPD officers, and other youth volunteers to discuss issues and resolutions.
- Design curriculum and programming for conflict resolution, violence prevention, community leadership training and community service activities.
- Integrate senior citizens in the training.

Timeline: 2007-2009

5). Provide basic needs support for Osborn families

Lead Agency: Detroit Parent Network, Private Agency or Non-Profit Organization

Partners: DHS, DHWWP, DWDD, DPD, DPS, DPL, MAN Network and Community Volunteers

Outcome Statement: Provide at least 500 families with parenting, nutritional and job training.

Strategy:

- Survey community to identify greatest areas of need for parenting skills, nutrition education and job training
- Conduct parental training workshops for life skills, parental skills, nutrition/diet education and job training.
- Incorporate job training programs, such as how to interview for a job and resume writing.
- Increase parental involvement and school participation levels in children's educational success.
- Enhance the literacy skills of children by providing a quality family literacy program designed to establish a family reading routine and provide books and literacy materials that are culturally relevant to the Osborn population.

Timeline: 2008-2012

NDNI OSBORN COMMUNITY WORK-PLANS

Issue A: Youth and Community Building

6). Improve access to health care.

Lead Agency: DHWP

Partners: St. Johns Health and Community Volunteers

Outcome Statement: Effectively increase resident awareness of health programs and services in Osborn by holding 4 Bi-lingual Health Care Forums and achieve a 20% increase in enrollment at FQHCs and clinics within 4 years.

Strategy:

- Provide education and assistance in insurance enrollment, family planning, lead testing, OB/GYN care, pediatric health and infant support services at Northeast Health Center and Public Health Center for Women and Children.
- Market and promote the Healthy Start Program at the Herman Keifer Health Complex which offers education and support groups for mothers of young children to ensure parents have the best knowledge to raise a healthy child.
- Foster use of the Childhood Lead Poisoning and Control Program, which provides testing and surveillance for all children. Conduct home inspections and case management for children identified with elevated blood lead levels.
- Ensure every child has the required childhood immunizations through aggressive marketing and educational initiatives.
- Conduct vision and hearing screenings at every Head Start, Early Childhood Center, Day Care and Elementary School.
- Provide access to flu and vaccine treatments in Senior Centers and other locations through the peak flu season.
- Prevent fetal alcohol related births through education awareness and screening for women who are using alcohol and thinking of becoming or are pregnant.

Timeline: 2008-2012

Private Efforts

1). Provide access to social services and support systems

Lead Agency: United Way

Partners: Community Volunteers

Outcome Statement: Create a Community Resource Guide detailing all resources and services available to residents in the Osborn community.

Strategy:

- Identify all social services agencies and support systems in neighborhood; publish a resource guide that provides detailed information on neighborhood services.

Timeline: 2008-2009

NDNI OSBORN COMMUNITY WORK-PLANS

Issue B: Crime Prevention

Youth centered community building

Goal: To empower Osborn residents and businesses to create a safe neighborhood through crime prevention, crime reduction, problem solving and by providing necessary resources and support services.

City of Detroit Public Efforts

1). Reduce crime

Lead Agency: DPD

Partners: Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, Wayne County Sheriff, Michigan State Police, Michigan Department of Corrections, NCH and MOCA

Outcome Statement: Reduce and sustain Part One crimes by 10% per year.

Strategy:

- Utilize intelligence from E.D. Shooting Team and Cobra units to conduct warrant sweeps.
- Conduct raids, street enforcements with wrap-a-rounds to include vacant homes to reduce narcotic sales and use.
- Maintain a high level of police visibility and work to improve neighborhood safety through zero tolerance traffic enforcement.
- Increase monitoring and patrolling of adult entertainment clubs and gas stations.
- Recruit community volunteers to participate in and sustain Radio Patrols.

Timeline: 2008-2012

2). Reduce prostitution

Lead Agency: DPD

Partners: DHWP, DWDD and DPD

Outcome Statement: Reduce the opportunity for visible prostitution and loitering by 50% in the first year.

Strategy:

- Utilize the DPD Fresh Start Program.
- Increase vice patrols and enforcement in known high prostitution areas.
- Utilize Health Department's mobile clinics to address HIV, STD and drug addiction intervention

Timeline: 2007-2012

NDNI OSBORN COMMUNITY WORK-PLANS

Issue B: Crime Prevention

City of Detroit Public/Private Efforts

1). Organize community involvement

Lead Agency: DPD

Partners: NCH, MOCA and Community Partners

Outcome Statement: Block Clubs/Community Organizations will designate one person who will go through the DPD Citizens Academy to learn how to train community residents to report crime via the Community Hotline and to establish additional CB Patrols.

Strategy:

- Recruit community volunteers to establish and maintain new CB Patrols.
- Recruit community volunteers to establish new and maintain existing block clubs and community associations.
- Establish a hotline for community associations to report crime.
- Provide ongoing training for individuals who volunteer for CB Patrols through the DPD Citizen Academy.
- Increase utilization of Crime Stoppers Hotline where callers can remain anonymous
- Increase communication and education with youth about the “no snitch policy” and develop youth leaders for an anti-crime education task force.
- Utilize the ENOTA Project to increase awareness and improvement with police and community relationships.

Timeline: 2007 - 2009

2). Remove abandoned vehicles

Lead Agency: DPD

Partners: Community Volunteers, Detroit Community Initiative

Outcome Statement: Increase removal of abandoned/stolen vehicles by 20% within the Osborn neighborhood, compared to the removal of abandoned/stolen vehicles in 2006.

Strategy:

- Identify and ticket all abandoned vehicles; remove vehicles after required notification; design and implement a system that removes at least 50% of vehicles within 10 days of notification.
- Conduct abandoned vehicle blitz with assistance of DPR's and City of Detroit Tow Companies.
- Develop GIS mapping system to chart the location of all abandoned/stolen vehicles utilizing DCI's GIS Youth Corps.

Timeline: 2007 - 2010

NDNI OSBORN COMMUNITY WORK-PLANS

Issue B: Crime Prevention

3). *Remove open and dangerous houses*

Lead Agency: BS&E

Partners: Community Volunteers and Detroit Community Initiative

Outcome Statement: Board and remove open and dangerous homes that are classified as emergency demolitions within 1 year of being reported.

Strategy:

- Identify and prioritize vacant open and dangerous houses that need to be boarded or raised.
- Create an expedited program to secure and/or demolish emergency demolitions within six months to one year with special attention to houses within 200 yards of a school.

Timeline: 2007-08

4). *Support Returning Citizens*

Lead Agency: DWDD

Partners: DPD, Michigan Corrections, United Way, Churches and Non-profits

Outcome Statement: Provide returning citizens with resources for housing, education, job training, health emergency needs and other services to support their smooth transition to becoming self-sufficient.

Strategy:

- Implement a tracking database system to monitor Returning Citizens spearheaded by Wayne Co. Prosecutor's Office.
- Facilitate access to the Michigan Prisoner Re-entry Initiative (MPRI).
- Link returning citizens with other support services and programs.

Timeline: 2007-2009

NDNI OSBORN COMMUNITY WORK-PLANS

Issue B: Crime Prevention

5). Reduce the truancy rate in Osborn

Lead Agency: DPD

Partners: DPS, Osborn business owners, Community Volunteers and United Way

Outcome Statement: Reduce the number of truant students at schools in Osborn by 15%, therefore leading to the reduction of crime committed by youth by 20%.

Strategy:

- Develop a DPD/Osborn/DPS partnership to strictly enforce the “no loitering” ordinance before and during school hours.
- Increase patrol during school hours to reduce truancy and work closely with school personnel to increase MUIPP enforcement.

Timeline: 2007-2012

NDNI OSBORN COMMUNITY WORK-PLANS

Issue C: Business & Residential Development

Youth centered community building

Goal: *To create an environment that attracts new businesses and supports existing retailers to provide needed goods and services to the Osborn community.*

City of Detroit Public/Private Efforts

1). Increase business development

Lead Agency: ONCR

Partners: Community Volunteers, Van Dyke/7 Mile Business Association, financial institutions, P&DD, OTB, DEGC, B&SE, MOCA, NCH

Outcome Statement: Enhance the existing business association to strengthen retail, business and customer service for Gratiot Ave, 6-8 Mile.

Strategy:

- Increase businesses and create business associations on blocks where there are none (i.e. Gratiot between 6 and 8 Mile).
- Utilize and market the new business association to prospective businesses.
- Market small business grants and loans to entrepreneurs.
- Create apprenticeship and internship programs at Osborn businesses for youth.

Timeline: 2007-2012

2). Maintenance of business district

Lead Agency: BS&E

Partners: DEA, Community Volunteers, Van Dyke/7 Mile Business Association, financial institutions

Outcome Statement: Identify and prioritize all open and dangerous commercial structures for redevelopment and greenspace; create additional affordable commercial/retail space for lease.

Strategy:

- Assess vacant buildings to determine feasibility for commercial development and retail or greenspace.
- Conduct a commercial assessment of property and issue tickets for non-compliance of property maintenance.

Timeline: 2008-2010

NDNI OSBORN COMMUNITY WORK-PLANS

Issue C: Business & Residential Development

City of Detroit Public Efforts

1). Traffic signal improvement

Lead Agency: DPW

Outcome Statement: Improve at least four traffic signals to create an environment that increases pedestrian and traffic safety around business district and parks.

Strategy:

- Schoenherr-State Fair: Scheduled to be modernized in 2008-09.
- Schoenherr-Bringard: Modernized in 2006.
- Seven Mile-Outer Drive: Scheduled to add countdown pedestrian signals in 2008.
- Outer Drive-Yolanda: Scheduled to be modernized in 2007.

Timeline: 2007-2009

2). Street Surfacing Improvement

Lead Agency: DPW

Outcome Statement: Improve at least five streets to create an environment that increases pedestrian and traffic safety around business and residential districts and parks.

Strategy:

- Identify streets that need resurfacing.
- Schedule resurfacing of necessary streets over the next 3 to 5 years with DPW and publicize the schedule with the community.

Timeline: 2008-2012

NDNI OSBORN COMMUNITY WORK-PLANS

Issue C: Business & Residential Development

City of Detroit Public/Private Efforts

1). Develop a vacant land use strategy

Lead Agency: Non-profit housing developers

Partners: P&DD, State of Michigan

Outcome Statement: Develop housing that will utilize vacant land and decrease dilapidated dwellings.

Strategy:

- Develop a plan to address the large volume of housing stock that needs to be repaired, not demolished.
- Create opportunities for CDC's to utilize tax credits and other financing mechanisms to increase housing stock to stabilize the neighborhood.
- Develop a strategy to convert vacant lots to productive use between 7 Mile and Gratiot

Timeline: 2007-2012