

Hedingham Neighborhood Bulletin



Hedingham Establishes Priorities for Neighborhood Service Efforts

On August 10, neighbors from the Hedingham community joined with representatives from City of Raleigh Community Services, Parks & Recreation, and the RPD to develop collaborative strategies to address neighborhood public safety and quality-of-life concerns. Participants were divided into two large groups, and came up with several priorities for city service efforts. These priorities are listed below, ranked by degree of urgency:

Presence of Police: The residents expressed strong and overwhelming requests to see more of a police presence in the neighborhood to help deter crime. They requested a community officer to be assigned to their area to provide a presence in the neighborhood. Residents would like an increase in vehicle, bike, and foot patrols by officers.

Rental Property/Abandoned Homes: The residents expressed concerns about rental property, foreclosures, absentee landlords, noise ordinance violations, and illegal activities that are occurring.

Traffic Violations: The residents expressed concern about tractor-trailers parking illegally in the neighborhood, speeding, and street parking. They requested more speed-limit signage, and street signs to help increase awareness of the speed limit.

Break-ins/Burglary: The residents expressed concern about car thefts and break-ins, daytime residential burglaries, and property being stolen from backyards in the neighborhood.

Youth Activities: The residents expressed a desire for teen forums, teen facility, curfew, and programs specific to youth in the community, to decrease the amount of illegal activity perpetrated by teens during weekends and hours of unstructured time. They also requested that programs be offered for youth of all ages, not just teens.

Trespassing: The residents expressed concern about trespassing by teens and adults in the community park after hours. Concerns were also expressed regarding solicitors in the neighborhood.

Structured Community Watch: The residents recommend block captain training, improving communication for crime and citizens, offering training on crime prevention techniques as well as gang prevention and recognition, and increasing awareness of programs offered by crime prevention officers for citizens to learn about improving the quality of life in Hedingham.

Gang Suppression/Prevention: The residents recommended efforts to suppress gang activity, community training in gang prevention/awareness, and information to help residents recognize gang graffiti in the neighborhood.

Illegal Dumping: The residents expressed concerns about illegal dumping on Skycrest Drive and concerns about neighborhood dumping in the community.

Lighting/ Streets: The residents expressed a desire for additional pedestrian crossings; additional signal lights in the community, specifically Willow Walk and Bartholomew; and increased lighting throughout the neighborhood and park areas.

In addition to the top priorities of the residents in the community, other concerns that are noteworthy but not listed as top-priority include a request for surveillance cameras, concerns about drug activity and prostitution, concerns about ATVs being driven on neighborhood streets, the installation of a 911 phone box on walking trails, improvement of communications through the neighborhood Web site, pet regulations, hedges and bushes obstructing view of intersections, and concerns about hunting. These concerns will be pursued along with the top ten priorities and reviewed as the COG team strategically develops a plan of action for Hedingham.



If you have any suggestions or would like to find out more about these efforts, please contact:

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