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November 14, 2019

Re: Actions NRZs and neighbors can take to address neighborhood residential and business property maintenance issues

Dear NRZ Chair,

During the May 30, 2019 NRZ Leaders Meeting, the attendees agreed that it would be powerful for NRZ's to have a common set of letters that they could use to send to businesses, landlords, residents and the City of Hartford to address quality of life issues around neglected properties. Examples of issues include businesses that don't keep their exterior property clean, as well as landlords who don't maintain their properties or tenants and residents who don't uphold the municipal ordinances or zoning regulations, negatively impacting the quality of life in our neighborhoods.

Robin Zaleski (Chair South Downtown NRZ), Denise Best (Chair Upper Albany NRZ), Kathy Evans (Chair South West/Behind the Rocks NRZ) and Marion Griffin (Co-Chair Hartford NEXT), as the NRZ Leaders Quality of Life Subcommittee, took on the challenge to draft letters and provide other documents to support this initiative. These documents were compiled into two packages, one for businesses and one for residential property. The packages include:

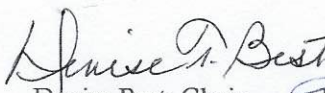
- Documentation of procedures to use for property complaints
- Templates/Sample Letters
 - First Letter to a business regarding quality of life issues requesting compliance with city ordinances
 - Second Letter to a business regarding the quality of life issue(s), if not resolved.
 - Letter to Corporate Headquarters if local business does not comply
 - Letter to residents
 - Letter to residential property owners
- A checklist to document a specific property's violations (list can accompany the letter)

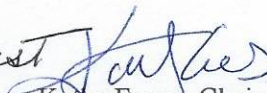
Additional resources provided are

- A Problem Property Report (can be used to identify violations)
- The Hartford Neighborhood Standards listing.
- City of Hartford Services Resident Guide (from Community Services)

If you have additional tools that you or your NRZ use that would be helpful to other NRZ's, please consider sharing by sending a copy to hnxt@hartfordnext.org. Your suggestions and comments would be greatly appreciated to make this initiative as effective as possible.

Sincerely,


Denise Best, Chair
Upper Albany NRZ


Kathy Evans, Chair
SW/BTR NRZ


Marion Griffin, Co-Chair
Hartford NEXT


Robin Zaleski, Chair
SODO NRZ

cc: Janice Castle Laura Settlemyer Walt Veselka