



Neighborhood Safety and Stability Subcommittee
3/25/08

This packet contains handouts that were distributed at the Neighborhood Safety and Stability Subcommittee meeting on March 25, 2008 and includes the following items:

- Packet of information, including news article, flyer, business card and photos, from The Ark Lawn Service
- Presentation: Uptown Springfield: A Crime-Management Case Study
- Presentation: Unnatural Causes: Is Inequality Making Us Sick?
- Flyer for Unnatural Causes: Is Inequality Making Us Sick?
- DRAFT -- List of Action Items to be requested by NSS Subcommittee

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1. City of Jacksonville should define physical assets in 'hot-spot' areas for use for after-school and summer programs. Schools (closed or open) should be looked at as a priority with Community Centers, Churches and other public/private facilities filling in the gaps.

- **Open closed community centers (\$3,975,000)**
- **Camp Jacksonville (\$105,000)**

2. City of Jacksonville should locate property (raw land, existing commercial/industrial structures, abandoned properties school facilities) for building/retrofitting as a gymnasium/multi-use facility. Hot spot areas should be given priority.

3. Parks/Community Center related:

- **All funds that are currently appropriated for after-school programs and community center operations as well as any future funding identified should be pooled into one fund on an annual basis for programming.**
- **The Jacksonville Journey's Positive Youth Development Committee should define appropriate programming models.**
- **The Parks Advisory Board (or any board reflective of providers and users of the programs) should assess program outcomes and recommend funding on an annual basis (Children's Commission and Housing Commission model).**
- **The City of Jacksonville should revisit the make-up and duties of the Parks Advisory Board to ensure that it reflects the providers and users of the park system and its programs.**

4. Create a Journey Action Team consisting of key players such as JSO, code enforcement, building inspections, solid waste, parks, etc. that focuses on non-police strategies in targeted areas. Key components include:

- **Fund a management position that is housed within JSO's Crime Analysis Unit to co-lead action team (\$60,000 – \$75,000).**
- **This person would use JSO's expertise to target the team's efforts on areas that statistically demand attention.**
- **A pool of money for action items required to address problems in targeted areas (e.g., lighting in Eureka Gardens for \$60,000, fencing, overtime for workers needed to provide extra service).**
- **To be effective, actions taken must be reviewed, revised and reworked. This committee would be charged with reporting on progress to administration.**

- **Increase funding to DART/Code Enforcement efforts (\$1,000,000)**

5. Request that JEA place a 'check' box on its bills for donations to after-school and summer programming.

6. Request that the Funding committee look to other City agencies for cooperation with funding programs and capital needs (JEA, JAA, JPA etc.).

7. Enact recommendations of Crime Free Multi-Family Housing subcommittee (see attached documents).

8. Due to time constraints, request that Steering Committee allow NSS to provide recommendations re: Economic Development at the April 10th meeting.

**Neighborhood Safety & Stability Subcommittee
Crime-Free Multi-Family Housing Work Group
Recommendations**

Preface

The Work Group undertook the task of providing recommendations for reducing crime and improving general safety in multi-family housing communities. The group operated under the premise that there is much that can be done on many levels by: the owners/managers, the residents themselves, the police and government.

The recommendations listed represent the work of the group over three meetings. The group was supported by knowledgeable resource people from JSO, HUD and the city's Housing & Neighborhoods Department.

The strength of these recommendations lies in their voluntary, self-help nature, their ease of implementation and their cost effectiveness. Only a few recommendations call for additional allocation of city revenue. These methods are tried and validated to be successful and would serve to reduce crime in the impacted neighborhoods almost immediately. The JSO Crime-Free Multi-Family Housing program alone would take us a long way toward our goal. This program serves as the centerpiece for our recommendations.

The weakness of these recommendations lies, too, in their voluntary, self-help nature. They take commitment and a strong change in management attitude to bring about success. Therein lies the problem. These methods are not new but have not been widely applied voluntarily, especially in impacted areas. Other than the momentum created by *The Jacksonville Journey*, there is no reason to feel that these methods will be enthusiastically embraced and consistently applied.

Understanding that many of these recommendations could potentially add expense to affordable properties that, by their very nature, might not have excess cash flow, we identified ways the city might provide incentives and matching grants to property owners that participate in the JSO program. In addition, we propose city legislation with some "teeth" that would strongly encourage complexes that have excessive police service calls and crime to participate in the JSO program.

Finally, recommendations calling for more complex measures of action will take additional time for the city's legal and other staff to fully craft. But this must be done if we as a city are to reach our intended objectives.

Recommendations to the city and HUD

- Support the JSO in the implementation of its Crime-Free Multi-Family Housing (CFMFH) program and encourage all apartment communities to participate in the effort.
- Develop incentives for property owners to implement Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) recommendations. Incentives would be available to property owners in high-crime areas who are certified participants in JSO's Crime Free Multi Family Housing program. Depending on the source of revenue, this program may be expanded throughout Jacksonville.
- Ask City Council to consider making resident services programs in properties located in high crime areas a priority for Public Service Grants, Community Development Block Grants or other City funds; Make a five year commitment for funding.
- Consistent with due process and contractual rights, work with the court system and Legal Aid to have judges and attorneys understand the need for strong lease enforcement and the need to support property owners in maintaining crime-free environments. Furthermore, call for an accelerated eviction process through the court system to better serve as a deterrent for criminal behavior, and call for expedited service of writs of possession following judgment. JSO is currently working with judges to educate them on the Crime Free Multi Family Housing program.
- Encourage HUD to:
 - Require its subsidized properties to participate in the JSO's Crime-Free Multi-Family Housing program
 - Stay in closer touch with its property managers
 - Request that HUD be notified of all criminal acts on their properties
 - Encourage or require properties to take advantage of HUD's Neighborhood Network Coordinator program

Potential city legislative action:

- Review the existing property safety code to ensure inclusion of CPTED & HUD housing quality standards within the existing inspection framework
- Enact legislation to impose a civil penalty or user fee on owners of apartment complexes with calls for police services over a threshold amount, similar to Section 168.104, Ordinance Code, concerning false burglary or robbery alarms. The penalty or fee would be waived for owners of complexes certified in and actively participating in the JSO's Crime-Free Multi-Family Housing Program. Owners cited for excessive calls for police services could elect to participate in the Crime-Free Multi-Family Housing Program in lieu of paying the penalty or fee established by this legislation, similar to the option in Section 603.302 for parents to attend parenting classes in lieu of paying a fine for children's curfew violations (see discussion section below).

Recommendations to property owners:

- Become certified in the JSO Crime-Free Multi-Family Housing Program
- Implement Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) strategies
 - Place sign on all properties in visible entry area listing a number to call to voice concerns or complaints

- Erect a clear and accurate site map at property entry way
 - Enhance lighting
 - Place locks on all doors and windows
 - Ensure clear and legible street signs and apartment numbers
 - Install useful peepholes (ie: wide-angle view, accessible by people with disabilities)
 - Register cars and issue parking decals for all residents. Include in lease agreement that tenants must have long-term guests display visitor pass in vehicle.
 - Improve attractiveness and cleanliness
- Property Management
 - Develop and enforce leases that prohibit criminal acts by leaseholders and make leaseholders responsible for their guests. The lease standards must be strict and uniformly enforced.
 - Allow a tenant organization to hear disputed cases of eviction to allow room for extenuating circumstances.
 - Participate in a citywide database showing the names and driver's license numbers of all persons evicted for violent crimes or drugs in order to prevent these residents from moving into another development. The JSO is working with a private party to take ownership of the database. Furthermore, property owners/managers should network regularly w/ adjoining communities to identify evictions.
 - Offer diversity training for property owners/managers
- Resident Services
 - Develop resident organizations in all properties in high-crime areas
 - Owners and managers should meet regularly with the resident organization and JSO to discuss crime, maintenance, services and other issues.
 - Provide financial support so that resident organizations can conduct their business where possible. (For example, the Jacksonville Housing Authority provides \$25 per unit for stamps, phone, supplies, etc.).
 - Encourage resident organizations to participate with other area community organizations such as CPACs and SHADCOs
 - Space should be provided by property owners/managers where possible for resident organizations and their activities.
 - A Neighborhood Watch program should be a basic component of all resident organizations.
 - Provide social service programs or partner with health, education, social services or faith based programs to enable residents to improve skills and transition to higher levels of housing. Where possible, space should be made available for these services to take place.
 - Encourage all CPACs, SHADCOs and the Jacksonville Tenants Association to assist in placing tenants in CFMFH-certified housing

Recommendations to Jacksonville Sheriff's Office

- Provide more frequent policing in high-crime developments during peak hours of criminal activity
- Ask officers to knock on doors and get to know as many residents as possible, with the knowledge and concurrence of property owners, managers
- Encourage police personnel, preferably the beat officer, to attend resident organization meetings and discuss crime information and crime prevention measure, as often as possible
- Provide statistics to property managers/owners about calls for service and crime on property and within the neighborhood (perhaps through the Crime Free MFH Program website that is being developed.)
- Encourage JSO to provide adequate resources to facilitate all recommendations in this section through additional funding and/or the re-allocation of existing resources.



Uptown Springfield A Crime-Management Case Study

The Jacksonville Journey
Neighborhood Safety & Stability Subcommittee

March 25, 2008

The Secret to Uptown Springfield's Success

- Focus on Crime, Trash & Infrastructure to break the crime business model

A quote related to "Broken Window Theory"

"...untended behavior...leads to the breakdown of community control...A piece of property is abandoned, weeds grow up, a window is smashed...Families move out, unattached adults move in. Teenagers gather in front of a neighborhood store...Fights occur. Litter accumulates. People start drinking in front of the grocery store; in time, an inebriate slumps to the sidewalk and is allowed to sleep it off. Pedestrians are approached by panhandlers."

"Comeback Cities: A Blueprint for Urban Neighborhood Revival," Paul S. Grogan & Tony Proscio, ©2000



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Police Measures

- Problem-Oriented Policing

- Crimes of critical mass level

- Operation Showdown (2003-2004)

- Order-Maintenance Policing

- Controls minor crimes that create a climate of menace and disorder

- Operation Safe Streets (Nov 2006-Mar 2007 and Feb 2008-Present)

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Police Measures

- Community Policing

- SPAR Security Fund (2004-Present)

- Team of 2 off-duty officers dedicated to the approx 100 acres of the Springfield Historic District

- Community-funded collaboration with residents at the street level

- Neighborhood Watch

- National Night-Out

- Residents use Block-by-Block forum (since 2005) on sparcouncil.org and 630-0500 to report local criminal activity

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Non-Police Measures

- CPTED – Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

- Clean and maintain the streetscapes

- Trash at the chronic and acute levels

- Vegetation overgrowth

- Median design and infrastructure improvements reduce traffic flow from outside the neighborhood

- Roundabouts and street resurfacing

- Historic light poles (banners) and bus stops act as deterrents

- Park beautification (public-private partnerships)

● Non-Police Measures

- Maximize civic engagement through SPAR Roundtable – “break the silo system”
 - Code enforcement
 - JSO – statistical, DART and hotspot updates
 - Historic Preservation
 - Infrastructure (JEA and Public Works)
 - COJ Neighborhoods Department
 - Private interest from “economic engines”
 - UF&Shands, FCCJ, developers

- The Results: Trash Reduction

- In 2006, local trash team collected approximately 300 bags of waste per week – this trash volume has **decreased 84%** (approximately 50 bags per week)
- Today, stray shopping cart volume has **decreased to 15%** that of 2006



- | The Results: Crime & Public Safety

- From 2004 to today, overall crime in Uptown Springfield (using Historic District boundaries) has **decreased 65%**

- Police measures

- Reduction of trash

- Infrastructure construction projects

The Results: A Changed Neighborhood

- SRG has sold more than 60 homes since 2004 ranging in price from **\$209,000-\$570,000**



Year	Avg Price
2004	\$233,000
2005	\$329,000
2006	\$410,000
2007	\$389,000

The Results: Overall Property Values

Historic Springfield Property Sales Values 2000-2007

Year	# Properties Sold	Total Value	Value/Unit
2000	99	\$3,987,100	\$40,274
2001	117	\$7,449,442	\$63,670
2002	170	\$11,910,600	\$70,062
2003	195	\$12,796,009	\$65,621
Subtotal	581	\$36,143,151	\$62,209
2004	360	\$59,810,184	\$166,139
2005	442	\$67,131,315	\$151,881
2006	206	\$33,050,588	\$160,440
Subtotal	1,008	\$159,992,087	\$158,722

Source: Obsidian Services GIS Mapping

The Results: Municipal Revenue

Historic Springfield Taxable Values 2004-2007

Year	Taxable Value	Increase Over Previous Year
2004	\$187,849,840	NA
2005	\$229,003,181	\$41,153,341
2006	\$266,218,921	\$37,215,740
2007	\$325,347,634	\$59,128,713
Total Inc Over 4-Yr Pd	\$137,497,794	
Est Inc in Tax Rev Over 4-Yr Pd		\$1,374,978

Source: Obsidian Services GIS Mapping (Duval County Certified Property Records)

- Uptown Springfield Today



Unnatural Causes

...is inequality making us sick?

A nation-wide campaign to raise awareness about how the social circumstances in which we are born, live and work can get under our skin and disrupt our biology as surely as germs and viruses.

Community Leaders Meeting
Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida
March 12, 2008

“Unnatural Causes”

- Brings to surface root causes of health inequity.
- Nation-wide public engagement campaign to help educate, organize and advocate for policies that promote wellbeing for everyone.
- DCHD seeks to build alliances with key community stakeholders around health inequity – both traditional and non-traditional health partners.

Root Causes of Health Inequity

Social conditions are as vital to our health as diet, smoking and exercise.

- Wages and benefits
- Tax Policies
- Neighborhoods
- Education Policy
- Schools/Education
- Racism
- Access to resources
- Political power

“Unnatural Causes”

10 Things to Know About Health

1. Health is more than health care.
2. Health is tied to the distribution of resources.
3. Racism imposes an added health burden.
4. The choices we make are shaped by the choices we have.
5. High demand + low control=chronic stress.
6. Chronic stress can be deadly.
7. Inequality – economic and political – is bad for our health.
8. Social policy is health policy.
9. Health inequalities are not natural.
10. We all pay the price for poor health.

“Unnatural Causes” Television Series

- A 4-part series on WJCT/PBS – Channels 7 or 8.



- Thursday, March 27th @ 10:00PM
- Thursday, April 3rd @ 10:00PM
- Thursday, April 10th @ 10:00PM
- Thursday, April 17th @ 10:00PM

Presented by National Association for County and City Health Officials, National Minority Consortia for Public Television in Association with the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies Health Policy Institute

“Unnatural Causes” Series

- **March 27th**
 - In Sickness and Health: How do Class and Status Affect Health? Who gets sick and why?
- **April 3rd**
 - When the Bough Breaks: African American Infant Mortality is highlighted. How does race play a into black infant mortality?
 - Becoming American: How do social inclusion, community ties, and economic mobility play a role in maintaining health?
- **April 10th**
 - Bad Sugar: Are chronic diseases tied to poverty and oppression?
 - Place Matters: How do the built space and social environment affect our health?
- **April 17th**
 - Collateral Damage: How do extreme poverty, stress of dislocation and loss caused by erosion of social systems impact health in the Marshall Islands?
 - Not Just a Paycheck: How do unemployment and job insecurity affect health?

Next Steps

- **Awareness**
 - “Unnatural Causes” Documentary Promotion
 - Community Engagement
 - Community Screenings (UNF, BCCJ, Public Libraries, etc.)
 - Expanding to more Community Groups
 - Partnership with Local Foundations
 - Media Outreach and Partnerships
 - Community Dialogue – Forums and Town Hall Meeting
- **Empowerment**
 - Linkages to other efforts in community (i.e. Infant Mortality, Violence, Homelessness)
 - Identifying Opportunities for Advocacy and Policy Change
 - Non-Traditional Partners

Awareness

- We need assistance promoting the “Unnatural Causes” series.
 - Flyers and Posters
 - Electronic Announcements
 - Promote in Organizations, Community, and Neighborhood Groups
- We need help informing and raising community awareness about “Unnatural Causes” in Jacksonville.
 - Health Stats Report coming out March 26th through DCIID
 - Who should this be distributed to?
- WJCT partnership and leadership on community dialogue
 - Televised Town Hall Meeting

Empowerment

- Localization of the Health Equity Issue
 - What is already being done? What opportunities are there to advocate for policy changes?

- Partnering with other community efforts
 - Ideas? How do we connect the pieces?

- Jacksonville Health Equity Steering Committee

Contact Us

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UNNATURAL CAUSES

...of illness and disability by making us sick.

POVERTY **EDUCATION** **STRESS** **RACISM**

The choices we make are shaped by the choices we have.

What really makes us sick?

Tune in to WJCT (PBS Channel 7 or 8) and watch the four part series "Unnatural Causes" to explore more on the root causes of health and illness in America and in Jacksonville.


- March 27 @ 10:00 PM
- April 3 @ 10:00 PM
- April 10 @ 10:00 PM
- April 17 @ 10:00 PM

What can you do? For more information call 253-2520.



SPRINGFIELD CLEANUP



 Dear Residents of Springfield,

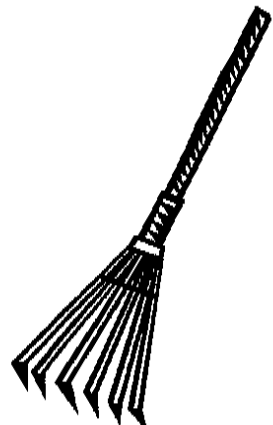
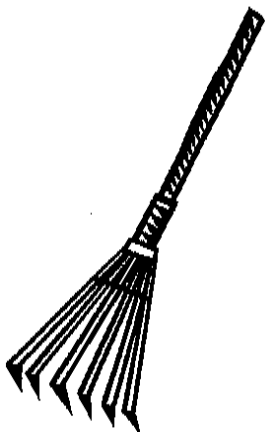
The Ark Lawn Service is in Springfield area cleaning up the neighborhood. The Ark Lawn service is conducting a litter patrol in the community and we need your help in keeping the neighborhood clean by keeping the front of your property clean. The litter patrol can be easily recognized by bright green shirts labeled litter patrol. We would greatly appreciate any and all help from the community that is offered. Thank you so much.

Yours truly,

The Ark Lawn Service



CLEANLINESS IS NEXT TO GODLINESS





CITY OF JACKSONVILLE

SOLID WASTE AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

Residential Recycling and Yard Waste

SERVICE STANDARDS

www.coj.net/pub/recycle/guide.htm



Please place all materials for collection curbside by 6 AM.

630-CITY

TIRES Residents may call to arrange the pickup of up to four passenger car tires (with or without rims) by calling 630-CITY. American Rubber Technologies, Inc. makes tires into a variety of surfacing materials, which are in use at several city parks and public schools.

CARPET is collected at the curb, cut into short rolls of 40 pounds or less. RCRD, Inc. collects and recycles carpet and padding. They also reuse it in many ingenious and innovative ways.

APPLIANCES Please call 630-CITY to arrange pickup of major appliances. Please remove or secure any doors.

The freon from refrigerators, freezers, and air conditioning units is extracted and used to recharge air conditioners in Jacksonville's City vehicles. This helps prevent air pollution and depletion of the ozone layer. The metals from the units are separated and then recycled into other items.

YARD WASTE is collected separately from garbage. Yard waste includes grass clippings, leaves, shrub trimmings, palm fronds and tree limbs.

Limbs must be cut 5 feet or shorter, no larger than 6" in diameter, and stacked in piles parallel to the curb.

Other yard waste must be containerized either in 45 gallon or smaller cans, or sealed in plastic bags, with each container weighing no more than 40 pounds.

Collection of yard waste is limited to 5 cubic yards weekly—approximately a standard pickup truck load or 30 bags.

Tree removal and trimming services are responsible for the removal of any yard waste they produce.



You can save money and resources by recycling and reusing your yard waste at home! Rather than bagging your yard waste:

- Use a mulching blade and leave grass clippings on the lawn; one bag contains up to 1/4 pound of organic nitrogen that is vital to lawn and plant growth.
- Use fallen leaves as mulch; this helps the soil retain moisture, reduces weeds and prevents erosion.
- Make your own backyard compost, including vegetable wastes from kitchen.

Free compost and mulch generated from your yard waste is available to Duval County residents only at the contract facilities. Call 630-CITY for more information.

BLUE BINS



When blue recycling bins get full, place additional recyclables beside bin in paper bags. Use bins only for recycling (no yard waste). During wet weather, please hold paper recyclables until your next collection day.



Recycle the Following Items in your Blue Bin

- Plastic food, beverage, detergent bottles and jugs
- Glass Bottles & Jars
- Newspapers & Inserts
- Brown Paper Bags
- Corrugated Cardboard
- Metal & Aluminum Cans
- Magazines, Catalogs & Phone Books

What does not go in Blue Bins / Alternatives

- Plastic bags are collected for recycling at most local grocery stores. Some locations even accept styrofoam and other recyclables.
- Hazardous waste containers; see hazardous waste info on the reverse of this flyer.
- To remove your name from most junk-mail (bulk business) lists, write to: Direct Marketing Association, Mail Preference Service, P.O. Box 9008, Farmingdale, NY 11735-9008

Remember, buying recycled products helps close the loop. Better yet, reuse durable products and reduce consumption to help conserve natural resources.

Printed on Recycled Paper by the City of Jacksonville





The Florida Times-Union

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★★

Tuesday, June 13, 2006

JACKSONVILLE

www.jacksonville.com

LANDSCAPER SPIFFS UP SPRINGFIELD

METRO • B-1



Can teen TV shows adapt to warp-speed lifestyles?

LIFESTYLE • C-1

Steelers star QB breaks jaw, nose in bike crash

SPORTS • D-1



Leader of Springfield Litter Patrol owns stake in neighborhood's future

Williams, also owner of a lawn service, is a man on a mission.

When David Williams goes to work each morning, he's not just showing up for a job.

He's going to war. At stake is the future of Springfield.

At least that's the way Williams, 46, owner of The Ark Lawn Service and leader of the Springfield Litter Patrol, sees it.

He's a man on a mission to clean up his neighborhood, both literally and figuratively.

Two years ago, Williams, a long-time resident of Sherwood Forest, moved his business to Springfield. He figured opportunity existed in the neighborhood, undergoing a revival after years of drugs, prostitution and violent crime.

His business unexpectedly expanded considerably about six months ago when Mack Bissette, CEO of SRG Homes, which has been building many of the new homes in Springfield, hired Williams to cut grass on SRG property.



**Charlie Patton
ONE OF US**

Bissette also had a bigger project in mind: Cleaning up all of Historic Springfield.

Thus the Litter Patrol was born.

For six days each week, Williams and his three-man crew patrol an area bounded by First and 12th streets south and north, and Boulevard and Ionia Street west and east, slightly more than 100 blocks.

In their first week on the job, they filled 300 30-gallon bags with garbage and collected about 50 abandoned shopping carts, as well as dozens of old tires, Williams said.

Now, six months into the job, they're down to 200 garbage bags a week and only the occasional shopping cart.

But while progress has been made, the fight is ongoing. As Williams drove down Fourth Street last week, he spotted a large pile of debris outside a house in the early stages of restoration after years of being abandoned to squatters and drug dealers.

"I do not let stuff like that be in my neighborhood," Williams said, vowing it would be cleaned up by the end of the day.

Williams said he subscribes to the "broken window" theory of law enforcement, which holds that the way to reduce crime in a neighborhood is to make sure that the area is clean and well-maintained.

"Dope dealers don't want to come into a clean neighborhood," he said. "There's nowhere to hide."

Bissette said he hopes the day comes when neighborhood residents make the anti-litter campaign their own. But in the meantime, Williams provides an example.

"He has some moral authority," Bissette said, adding that neighbors seem to appreciate his work.

"I know I feel better," said Bissette, who lives in Historic Springfield.



BRUCE LIPSKY/The Times-Union

David Williams (left) and his crew from the The Ark Lawn Service spend Friday morning on litter patrol around Third and Market streets.

Like Bissette, Williams is betting on the future of Springfield. He and his wife Angela have a new home under construction on Liberty Street.

"I want to live in a nice, clean community where people are building

houses," he said. "The only way we're going to win the area is we have to win all of Springfield, not part."

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