

The Neighborhood Project (TNP): An Update

January 25, 2018

Gillian Nanton

Community & Economic Development Office



TNP Goal: To develop an actionable strategy and toolkit of policies for neighborhood stabilization

- TNP - one of 22 proposals in Housing Action Plan
- Residents of neighborhoods impacted by heavy student populations called for a proactive Neighborhood Stabilization Program (TNP)



City identified availability & affordability of housing as one of its most significant challenges

- HAP identified lack of sufficient housing as negatively impacting quality of life
- Overtime the City has pursued strategies to address quality of life challenges: e.g.
- Minimum Rental Housing Ord.
- Noise Ordinance
- 4-Unrelated zoning provision
- Agreements between City & institutions around housing
- UVM & Champlain College - host of programs aimed at improving QoL



TNP: What has been Done?

- Consultants began work in August 2017
- 60 interviews
- Neighborhood tours (Wards 1,2,6, 8)
- Mapped a series of data sets
- Culminated in the Community Open House on December 12

Thank you to all who turned out



Attendees at the Community Open House, December 12, 2017

Open House: Feedback on 3 broad strategies, each with proposed actions:



- Enhance quality of life initiatives (e.g. Reviewing city's QoL policies, ordinances etc. to make them clearer, easier to enforce; building on current renter education programs)
- Contain & slow down conversions of single family homes to rentals (e.g. Creating more student housing adjacent to campuses – explore potential Trinity campus; create property acquisition fund to acquire single family homes; explore employer assisted housing)

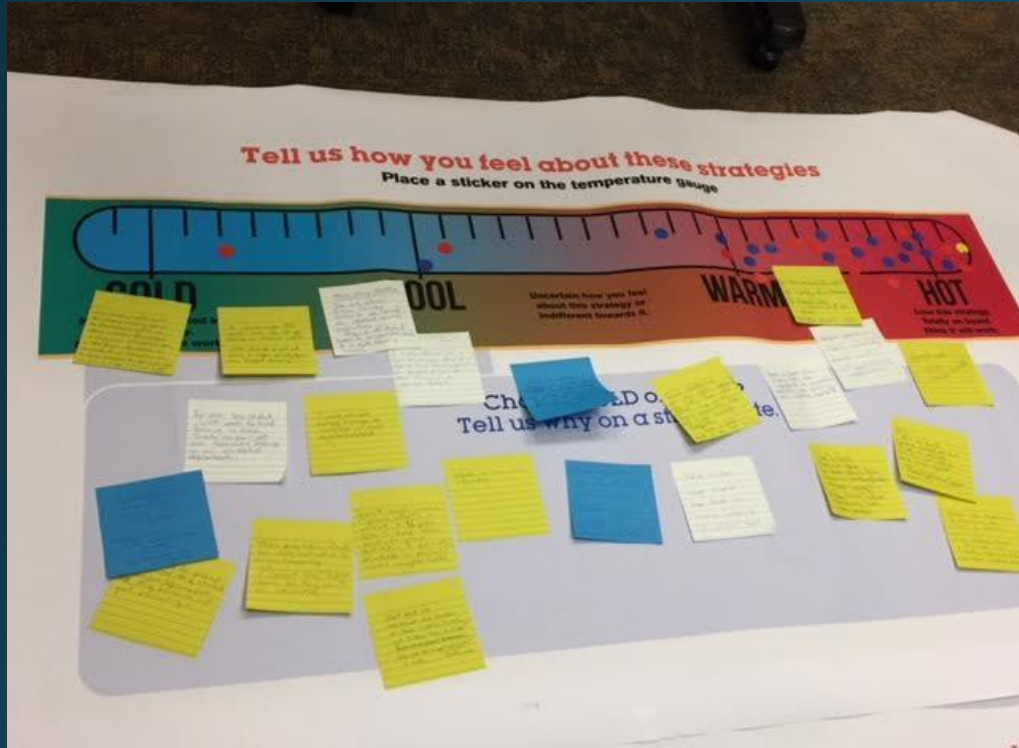
- Convert selected primarily student rental properties to non-student housing while maintaining affordability

- (e.g. create a fund to acquire student rental properties;
- create a targeted rehab loan program;
- institute employer assisted housing program



Participants at Community Open House, December 12, 2017

Early feedback from survey:



- Support for enhancing quality of life initiatives, but need to do more
- Relatively strong support for containing and slowing down conversions of single family homes to rentals
- Some support for conversion of selected student rentals to non-student housing while maintaining affordability

Participants provide feedback on proposed strategies at Community Open House, December, 12, 2017

So What Comes Next?

- Extended Time for folks to provide feedback: Presentation and survey links: <https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/CEDO/The-Neighborhood-Project>
- We'll collate the data from the survey when it closes on February, 16th 2018.
- Based on feedback, priority actions, next steps and proposed timelines will be presented to the CDNR Committee
- In the upcoming period, the city will continue its review of quality of life tools within the city's realm, to address concerns and simplify and communicate these more effectively (e.g. clearer procedures for Rental Certificates)

Questions?