



City of Rome Neighborhood Enhancement Program

Neighborhood Enhancement

Program Update

Rome City Commission Caucus Meeting

January 25, 2016



Neighborhood Enhancement Program

Where we started?

NEP Team Members:

- Bekki Fox – Community Development Director
- Sue Hiller – Planning Director
- Mary Hardin Thornton – Neighborhood Sustainability Director
- Elaine Snow – Chief of Police (Retired)
- Debbie Burnett – Major, Rome Police Department
- Denise Downer McKinney – Major, Rome Police Department
- Howard Gibson – Chief Building Official
- James Martin – Assistant Chief Building Official
- Kirk Milam – Public Services Manager
- Patrick Eidson, Assistant City Manager



Neighborhood Enhancement Program

Where we started?

- March 2015 Planning Retreat – Redevelopment Discussion – what are some alternatives? NEP Concept Introduced;
- “Gather The Team” – Assistant City Manager, Community Development Director, Chief Building Official, Planning Director, Public Services Manager and the Chief of Police; any other designee from each department as necessary;
- Policy document created and presented to RCC outlining the NEP program.
- Program Implementation;



What is the Neighborhood Enhancement Program?

- NEP is a 90 day collaboration between the City and community partners in a concentrated effort to improve the quality of life in identified neighborhoods.
- 3 pronged approach: Strategic placement of city services for the enhancement, enforcement, and sustainability in identified **“Focus Areas”**.



What is the Neighborhood Enhancement Program?

Goals of NEP:

- **Integrated Service Delivery:** Heightened cooperation and collaboration among city departments and community stakeholders.
 - Concentrated building code enforcement;
 - Identifying and “cooling down” crime hot spots;
 - Cleaning of streets, sidewalks and vacant lots;
 - Neighborhood Beautification efforts;
 - Engaging local property owners, neighborhood residents and community groups to create and sustain a more livable neighborhood;
 - Revitalize a **“SENSE OF PLACE”**



What is the Neighborhood Enhancement Program?

Goals of NEP:

- Create a “ripple effect” for community and economic redevelopment;
- Strengthen the neighborhood business districts;
- Increase community pride and self sufficiency;
- Influence and sustain visible improvement of the neighborhood;
- Reduce the number of vacated buildings & increase property values;
- Reduce crime;



2015 Blossom Hill Neighborhood Enhancement Program Kick-Off Event

Where we started!!! September 21, 2015



Rome Civic Center – Kickoff Event



2015 Blossom Hill Neighborhood Enhancement Program Public Services Division

BEFORE



AFTER





2015 Blossom Hill Neighborhood Enhancement Program Public Services Division

BEFORE



AFTER





2015 Blossom Hill Neighborhood Enhancement Program Public Services Division





2015 Blossom Hill Neighborhood Enhancement Program Public Services Division

Solid Waste Management and Litter





2015 Blossom Hill Neighborhood Enhancement Program Public Services Division





2015 Blossom Hill Neighborhood Enhancement Program Neighborhood Sustainability Division

HOME FIRES ARE THE BIGGEST FAMILY DISASTER THREAT



Home fires kill more than 2,500 people and cause an estimated \$6.9 billion in property damages every year.

Nearly 2/3 of all fire deaths happen in homes without smoke alarms or functioning units.



Working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in home fires by half.

The American Red Cross and the Rome/Floyd County Fire Department, volunteers & staff participated in the Home Fire Campaign. Through this coordinated effort **120 smoke detectors/alarms** were installed.

Thanks to the Rome/Floyd Fire Department and the American Red Cross of Northwest Georgia!!!

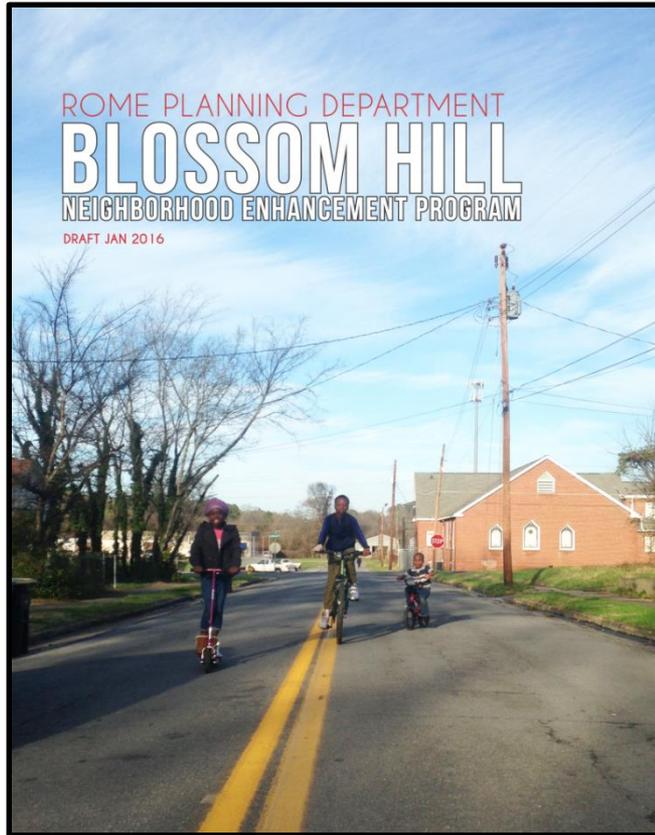


2015 Blossom Hill Neighborhood Enhancement Program Code Enforcement Division





2015 Blossom Hill Neighborhood Enhancement Program Planning Services Division



For a copy of this plan contact the Rome/Floyd County Planning Department at 706-236-5025.

The Rome/Floyd Planning Division prepared a planning analysis that focused on transit and pedestrian services in the Blossom Hill neighborhood. This simple plan focuses on:

- Corridor Improvements
- Vacancy Analysis
- Alley Study
- Signage Enforcement
- Neighborhood Transit Inventory
- Neighborhood Bike/Pedestrian Plan



2015 Blossom Hill Neighborhood Enhancement Program Police Services Division

Rome Police Officers Phillips and Tallman

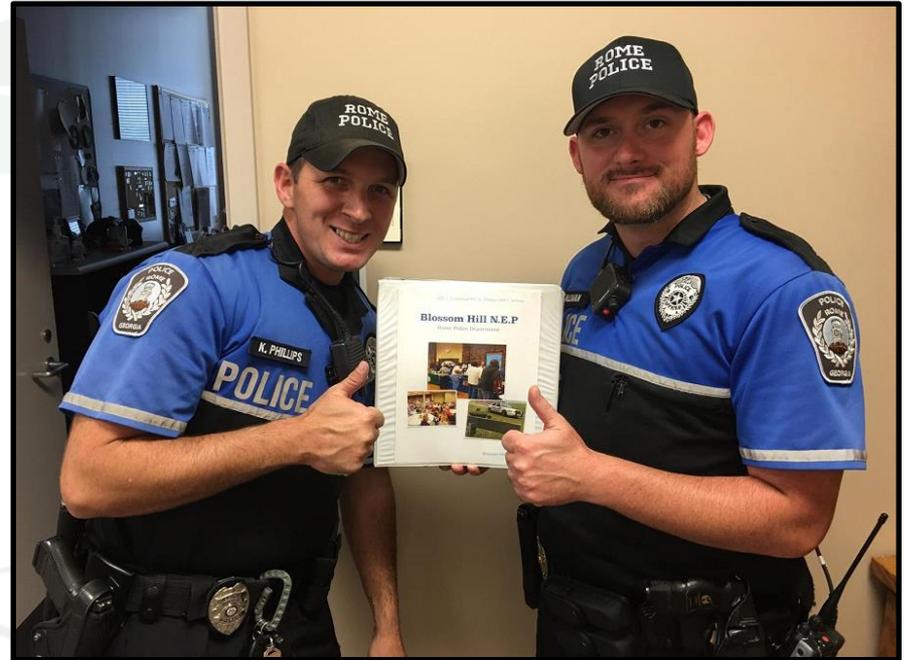
3-Pronged Approach:

Phase 1: Survey Period

Officers visited residents often in each resident's living room asking questions pertaining to their concerns regarding how the police department could better serve their community.

Phase 2: Enforcement Period

The goal: Increase officer presence in the Blossom Hill neighborhood to deter criminal activity identified by residents in Phase One.



Phase 3: Contact Period: The goal: Focus on spending time interacting with community members in a manner outside of traditional enforcement/response efforts.



2015 Blossom Hill Neighborhood Enhancement Program Police Services Division





2016 Neighborhood Enhancement Program

What's Next ?

City staff has developed **two** program changes that will begin in the Spring of 2016.

1. NEP Scheduling:

- City staff recommends NEP operate in the spring and fall of each year.
- Weather in the summer and winter make outdoor improvements difficult for citizens due to inclement/hot weather.
- Allows staff to conduct preliminary analysis of future NEP Focus Areas to determine need;



2016 Neighborhood Enhancement Program

What's Next ?

2. NEP Selection Process:

- Spring NEP will be a staff driven process;
- Fall NEP will be selected using a community application process currently be developed by staff focusing on:
 1. Pre-Application Workshop: What is the process?
 2. Eligibility: Who is eligible? applicants/organizations
 3. Project Guidelines: What are applicant expectations?
 4. Evaluation Criteria: Code Enforcement issues, litter issues, policing, infrastructure needs, overall neighborhood engagement rating;



2016 Neighborhood Enhancement Program

What's Next ?

The 2016 Spring NEP Focus Area is: **North Rome Commons North and South**

- North Rome Community Action Committee – Synergy created by this group and next logical location to continue NEP program.
- Proximity to Blossom Hill NEP – Staff believes this may help with monitoring the Blossom Hill community to better measure long-term results.
- Staff seeks to maximize available funding sources to help with activities such as infrastructure and minor and moderate housing rehab programs. Performing work in identified low income census tracts allows for such activities to be highlighted during NEP.



2016 Neighborhood Enhancement Program



Thank you!

Neighborhood Enhancement Program