

# COTTAGE GROVE

## NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION PLAN



YOUNGSTOWN  
**NEIGHBORHOOD**  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

# **“Doubt, of whatever kind, can be ended by action alone.”**

~Thomas Carlyle

## **ACTION PLAN PRODUCED OCTOBER 2014**

by the YOUNGSTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
and the CITY OF YOUNGSTOWN

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Cottage Grove is almost completely residential, with the exception of the South Ave, Market St, Indianola Ave, and Southern Blvd Corridors.

# SECTION I. INTRODUCTION

Youngstown, Ohio, has experienced typical Midwestern deindustrialization and subsequent disinvestment. After decades, the population loss has not slowed: between 2010 and 2012, Youngstown lost more residents than any American city over 50,000 people.

In 2005 the City of Youngstown gathered community members and other stakeholders to craft *Youngstown 2010*, a long-term planning document. Out of that effort arose a host of neighborhood associations as well as the non-profit Youngstown Neighborhood Development Corporation (YNDC). In 2013, YNDC began providing neighborhood planning services for the City of Youngstown. In that capacity, YNDC crafted the *Neighborhood Conditions Report* to provide a detailed look at the housing markets and socioeconomic conditions facing our neighborhoods in order to inform a citywide strategy for improving quality of life and address basic challenges and opportunities facing our neighborhoods.

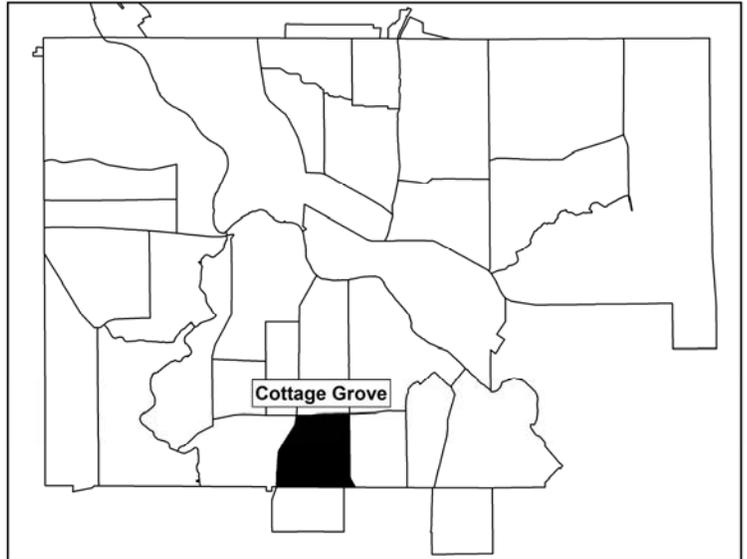
YNDC is forging collaboration between Cottage Grove neighborhood groups and stakeholders, as well as the City of Youngstown to complete strategic neighborhood stabilization activities in this area. The following document is an action-driven plan that proposes a clear property-specific strategy for the stabilization of the Cottage Grove neighborhood, which would allow more flexibility in neighborhood stabilization and revitalization. YNDC and the City of Youngstown Community Development Agency will take the lead in preparing, administering, reporting and monitoring the Cottage Grove Neighborhood Action Plan.



The majority of businesses in Cottage Grove are on the eastern and western fringes, with the exception of a few businesses along Southern Boulevard, which bisects the neighborhood.

# HISTORY AND DEMOGRAPHICS

Cottage Grove, annexed in 1929, grew along the Youngstown & Southern Railroad line. Stops along the line, such as at Midlothian Boulevard, developed as neighborhood commercial nodes to serve disembarking commuters that resided in the middle class neighborhood that developed in the 1920's, 1930s and 1940s between South Avenue and Market Street. Much of the commuter rail look of this corridor stil remains although passengers haven't ridden the line for over fifty years. - Youngstown 2010 Plan



## Cottage Grove Neighborhood Demographic Summary

	POPULATION (2010)	POPULATION LOSS (1990-2010)	AVERAGE HOME SALE PRICE (2007-2012)	PERCENT OWNER OCCUPIED (2010)	VACANCY RATE (2010)	PERCENT LOW- TO MODERATE- I NCOME RESDIENTS (2010)
<b>COTTAGE GROVE</b>	3,021	-34%	\$13,267	41%	32%	68%
<b>YOUNGSTOWN</b>	66,982	-30%	\$23,944	58%	19%	61%

SOURCE: United States Census and American Community Survey Data; HUD Low and Moderate Income Summary Data



Cottage Grove has the second highest population density in the city, though it lost 34% of its population between 1990 and 2010.

# PUBLIC CONSULTATION

On March 4th, 2014 at the Newport Library, YNDC and the City conducted a citywide planning meeting for residents of the Cottage Grove neighborhood, where both assets and priorities in the neighborhoods were established, discussed in detail, and recorded on comment cards. In general, residents considered housing and property issues, infrastructure concerns, and neighborhood safety to be primary issues. Residents were also asked to tell the YNDC planning team “one thing we need to know” about the neighborhood. Responses were recorded on comment cards and this activity was purposely left open-ended to gain a rich variety of feedback. Some of the responses are shown below. All public input from each meeting described above is found in Appendix 2 on page 22.

*“Let people who can afford buy the houses that are still in pretty good shape for \$1.”*

*“Replace houses with houses not gardens. Start holding homeowners accountable for keeping their property up”*

*“Improve the streets. More patrol cars in the BAD areas”*

*“Increase desire to live in a neighborhood”*

*“I am sure that if improvements are not made more people will be moving out of ytown.”*

*“Crime causing business flight from city (not including downtown area)”*

*“There are several squatters living in some of the abandoned homes. Need to send people out and see how horrific some of these dwellings are.”*

*“The need to increase youth activities”*

*“City council should not allow fracking or injection wells within the city limits”*

*“Church folk and city leaders need to walk the streets and get to know residents”*



In March 2014, Cottage Grove Residents were invited to share their concerns and recommendations for the community

# NEIGHBORHOOD PRIORITIES

Each resident who attended the citywide public meetings held in early 2014, including the one hosted in the City's sixth and seventh Wards, was asked to identify his/her top three challenges or priorities to be addressed in their neighborhood. Residents overwhelmingly identified housing and property issues as the number one challenge they would like to see addressed.

## Housing and Property Issues

Issues identified by residents include litter, illegal dumping, code violations, vacant homes, unmaintained vacant lots, and general abandonment.



Vacant and unsecure houses are a primary issue in Cottage Grove. These houses are unsafe and unsanitary, thus lowering the quality of life for residents of the area.



## Market Segmentation Categories:

An explanation of the varying categories of market conditions from the market segmentation analysis of the City of Youngstown are as follows:

**Stable market** block groups have the strongest indicators of any neighborhoods in the city, though they may or may not be considered strong by national standards. In general, they are represented by relatively few vacancies and high median sales prices. Homeownership rates are significantly higher than the citywide average and poverty rates, crime rates, and population loss are low. Home transfers involve traditional mortgages in nearly 50% of cases, compared to only 1 out of 10 in Youngstown as a whole.

**Functioning market block groups** are those in which all or nearly all indicators fall within ranges consistent with an adequately functioning housing market: houses generally sell when they come on the market; vacancies are manageable; few properties go into foreclosure; and housing quality is generally high. House prices, however, vary more widely than the other indicators, reflecting the fact that house prices do not correlate as strongly with the other indicators as most do with each other. These areas may not have strong markets by national standards, but they are functioning well by city or regional standards. As such, they are likely to be appropriate target areas for stabilization efforts to ensure that they retain their market viability. (Mallach, 2013)

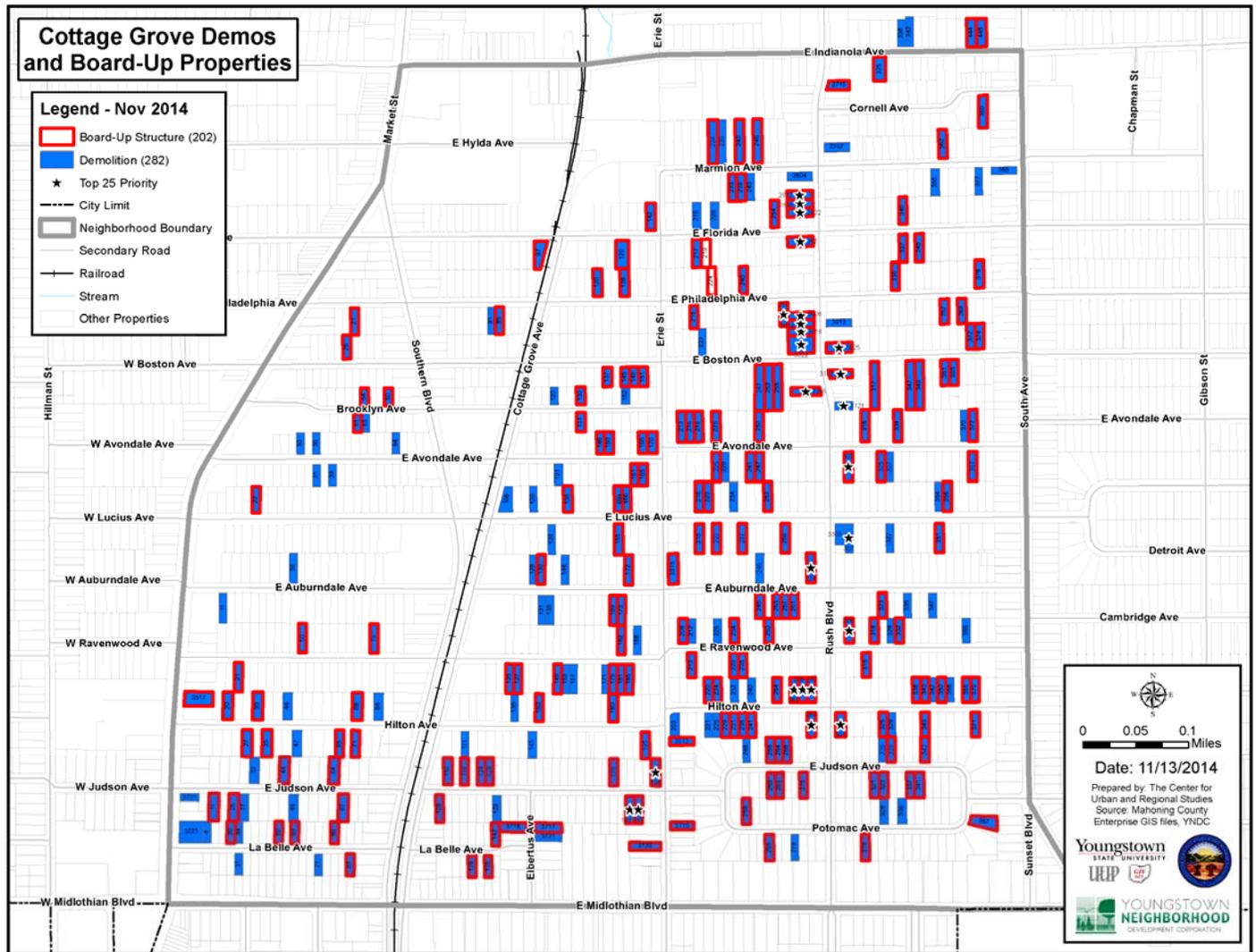
**Constrained market block groups** are those in which market activity continues to take place, and houses generally sell fairly readily as they come on the market. However, one or more variables suggest that significant deterioration in market conditions is taking place, including extremely low sales prices—which is likely to reflect a market dominated by speculative investors—significantly more rapid erosion of home ownership than in the functioning market tracts, and significantly higher vacancy rates. Given their still relatively high housing quality, some or all of these areas may be appropriate targets for stabilization efforts. (Mallach, 2013)

**Weak market block groups** are those in which most variables suggest market weakness, particularly significantly slower turnover rates than in the two preceding clusters, yet at least one and in some cases more variables point to the continued presence of some level of market activity or neighborhood stability; for example, a tract may have sluggish sales and very low house prices, but may also have relatively low vacancy or foreclosure rates, or a high and relatively stable homeownership rate. Depending on the particular features of the individual census tracts in this cluster, some may be appropriate targets in whole or part for stabilization efforts. (Mallach, 2013)

**Extremely weak market block groups** are those in which all or nearly all variables indicate that little or no market exists for the housing in the tract. They are generally characterized by minimal sales activity, extremely low prices for those houses that do sell, extremely high vacancy rates and tax foreclosure, and low levels of homeownership and housing quality. It is unlikely that many of these areas are appropriate targets for stabilization efforts overall, although there may be small subareas where such efforts may be appropriate. It is important to ensure that the residents of these tracts continue to receive adequate public services. (Mallach, 2013) **Cottage Grove is an extremely weak market block group.**

# SECTION II. HOUSING STRATEGIES

A detailed survey of the conditions of all properties in the Cottage Grove Neighborhood was conducted by YNDC in order to assess housing issues that are negatively impacting quality of life and hindering housing reinvestment in the neighborhood. The following map outlines houses that require demolition and/or board up.



This data was collected from a series of detailed field surveys conducted during 2014 by YNDC tracking property vacancy and security every property in the neighborhood. Vacancy was determined by a number of factors, including whether or not the windows/doors were broken and whether or not the electric meter was operating.

## Strategies

**Demolish via City of Youngstown:** Properties that are vacant and severely deteriorated are recommended in the plan for demolition by the City of Youngstown or by the Mahoning County Land Bank if they are two-years' tax delinquent in specific areas. These also include properties that must be urgently demolished because they are an immediate health and safety hazard and require urgent action to stabilize neighborhood conditions.

**Board Up:** Vacant properties with broken or missing doors or windows or are otherwise vulnerable to break-ins and vandalism are recommended to be boarded up in order to secure the property and to prevent criminal activity. Properties can be boarded and secured in partnership with the City of Youngstown, YNDC, and neighborhood residents through a combination of volunteer workdays and contracted work crews.

# TOP 25 PRIORITY PROPERTIES: COTTAGE GROVE NEIGHBORHOOD

Through field research, 25 residential structures were identified as priority properties. These houses were selected based on their proximity to the Rush Blvd corridor. Intersections along Rush Blvd are the location of numerous school bus stops, as well as some of the most unsecure and deteriorated houses in the neighborhood. Prioritizing these areas is important to the safety of the community. Another priority area was the intersection of Erie St. and E Judson Ave. Photos on this page demonstrate examples of some of the Top 25 Priority Properties.



3014 Rush Blvd: Board Up and Demolition



301 Hilton Ave: Board Up and Demolition



3116 Rush Blvd: Board Up and Demolition



267 E. Florida Ave: Board Up and Demolition

## PRIORITY PROPERTIES: DEMOLITION AND BOARD UP

The following 25 properties have been identified as priority properties for demolition and/or board up. These properties were evaluated via data collected in the detailed property survey conducted by YNDC for the neighborhood and deemed priorities based on their poor condition on relatively stable streets.

ADDRESS	BOARD UP	DEMOLITION
274 E Auburndale Ave	X	X
307 E Avondale Ave	X	X
267 E Florida Ave	X	X
183 E Judson Ave	X	X
187 E Judson Ave	X	X
196 E Judson Ave	X	X
307 E Lucius Ave		X
257 E Philadelphia Ave	X	X
308 E Ravenwood Ave	X	X
262 Hilton Ave	X	X
266 Hilton Ave	X	X
269 Hilton Ave	X	X
270 Hilton Ave	X	X
301 Hilton Ave	X	X
2812 Rush Ave	X	X
2816 Rush Ave	X	X
2822 Rush Ave	X	X
3006 Rush Ave	X	X
3014 Rush Ave	X	X
3018 Rush Ave	X	X
3022 Rush Ave	X	X
3023/3025 Rush Ave	X	X
3107 Rush Ave	X	X
3116 Rush Ave	X	X
3121 Rush Ave		X

# HOUSING BENCHMARKS

The following section outlines neighborhood revitalization objectives for the Cottage Grove Neighborhood to be achieved in accordance with this plan over the next five years, from 2015 to 2020.

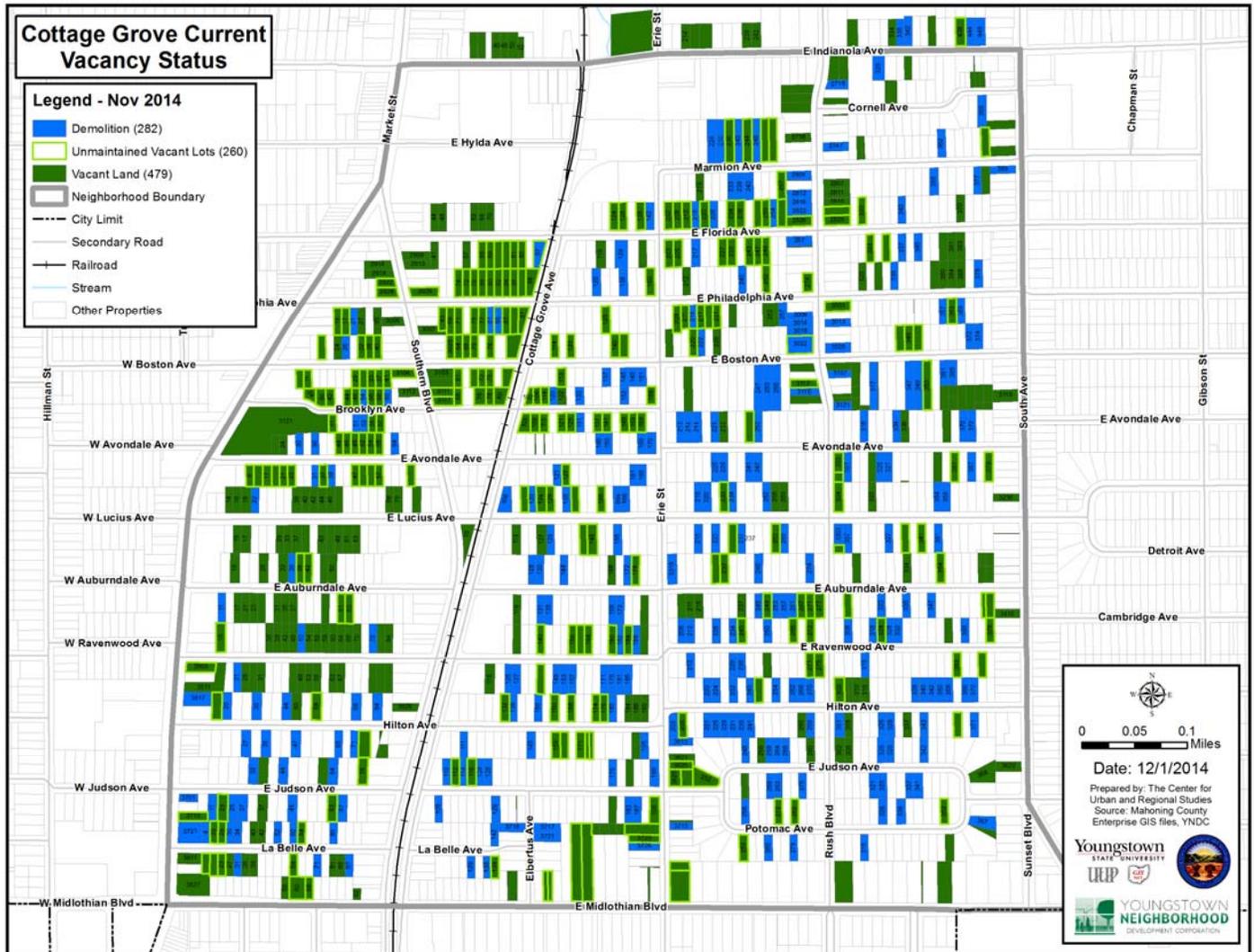
## Housing and Property Five-Year Benchmarks

- 25 severely blighted structures are demolished.
- 15 vacant and formerly blighted housing units are boarded and cleaned up.

## Neighborhood Action Plan Progress Tracking Form

5-Year Performance Benchmark	Q1 2015	Q2 2015	Q3 2015	Q4 2015	Q1 2016	Q2 2016	Q3 2016	Q4 2016	2015-2016 Total	2015-2020 Goal
<b>Housing Benchmarks</b>										
Severely blighted structures are demolished.										<b>25</b>
Vacant and formerly blighted housing units are boarded and cleaned up in order to improve neighborhood safety.										<b>15</b>

# SECTION III. VACANT LOT STRATEGIES



A survey of vacant lots in the Cottage Grove neighborhood was conducted by YNDC in order to assess current and future land use issues. Lots that were addressed were those that contained tall grass, piles of brush, ungraded surface conditions, and illegal dumping. These lots are considered “Unmaintained Vacant Lots.” The following map outlines unmaintained vacant lots, maintained lots, and houses scheduled for demolition. There are 479 parcels of vacant land, of these 260 were unmaintained. In addition, 282 homes are scheduled for demolition, which would increase the amount of vacant land by 58%.

## Initial Strategy

**Lot Clean Up:** Unmaintained Vacant Lots should be cleared of dumping and trash to create a clean and safe environment. Recent demolitions should be cleared of all debris. Foundations and driveways should be removed to allow for groundwater retention. Mature trees should be cleared of lower limbs and allowed to remain. Mature trees provide shade and wind blocks. They also encourage a diversified ecosystem, which prevents rodents and pests. Cleared lots should be graded and reseeded.

## Maintenance Strategies

**Stand Alone Lots:** For single unmaintained lots between houses or maintained lots, the City should cut the entire lot in order to improve quality of life for surrounding residents and to give the lot the appearance of a side yard. Work should be conducted to acquire these properties and transfer them to a responsible owner nearby for continued maintenance. Programs such as Lots of Green can assist individuals or neighborhood groups with transforming these lots for a variety of uses such as community gardens or parks.

**Large Lot Groupings:** Large lot groupings present problems of dumping and costly maintenance. For groups of two or more vacant lots, the City should only cut areas immediately around the sidewalks and alongside occupied houses to give the lot an orderly appearance, improve the quality of life for adjacent residents, and ensure high grass does not impede pedestrian traffic. Mowing lots using this method will reduce costs and time when compared to mowing the lots in entirety.



The “Window Pane” method provides an orderly appearance to lots while reducing cost and time. This method helps the city address the lot more frequently.

# APPENDIX 1. HOUSING STRATEGY DATABASE

Yellow properties represent the Top 25 Priority Properties.

Address	Board Up	Demolition
210 E AVONDALE AVE	X	X
214 E AVONDALE AVE	X	X
218 E AVONDALE AVE	X	X
226 E AVONDALE AVE	X	X
252 E AVONDALE AVE	X	X
334 E AVONDALE AVE	X	X
370 E AVONDALE AVE		X
372 E AVONDALE AVE	X	X
367 E AVONDALE AVE	X	X
327 E AVONDALE AVE		X
325 E AVONDALE AVE	X	X
307 E AVONDALE AVE	X	X
247 E AVONDALE AVE	X	X
241 E AVONDALE AVE	X	X
229 E AVONDALE AVE		X
225 E AVONDALE AVE	X	X
222 E BOSTON AVE		X
3022 RUSH BLVD	X	X
3018 RUSH BLVD	X	X
3014 RUSH BLVD	X	X
3006 RUSH BLVD	X	X
3013 RUSH BLVD		X
3025/3023 RUSH BLVD	X	X
372 E BOSTON AVE	X	X
374 E BOSTON AVE	X	X
365 E BOSTON AVE	X	X
361 E BOSTON AVE	X	X
349 E BOSTON AVE	X	X
347 E BOSTON AVE	X	X
317 E BOSTON AVE	X	X
3107 RUSH BLVD	X	X
3121 RUSH BLVD		X
3116 RUSH BLVD	X	X
255 E BOSTON AVE	X	X
253 E BOSTON AVE	X	X
247 E BOSTON AVE	X	X
224 E PHILADELPHIA AVE	X	
240 E PHILADELPHIA AVE	X	X
267 E FLORIDA AVE	X	X
336 E PHILADELPHIA AVE	X	X
378 E PHILADELPHIA AVE	X	X
369 E PHILADELPHIA AVE	X	X

Address	Board Up	Demolition
357 E PHILADELPHIA AVE	X	X
257 E PHILADELPHIA AVE	X	X
215 E PHILADELPHIA AVE	X	X
2822 RUSH BLVD	X	X
2816 RUSH BLVD	X	X
2812 RUSH BLVD	X	X
224 MARMION AVE	X	X
230 MARMION AVE		X
240 MARMION AVE	X	X
246 MARMION AVE	X	X
243 MARMION AVE		X
239 MARMION AVE	X	X
233 MARMION AVE	X	X
3613 ERIE ST	X	X
3715 ERIE ST	X	X
258 POTOMAC AVE	X	X
328 POTOMAC AVE		X
336 POTOMAC AVE		X
341 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
337 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
323 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
321 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
275 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
263 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
259 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
248 E JUDSON AVE		X
258 JUDSON AVE	X	X
264 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
268 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
326 E JUDSON AVE		X
328 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
342 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
367 POTOMAC AVE	X	X
315 POTOMAC AVE	X	X
279 POTOMAC AVE		X
265 POTOMAC AVE	X	X
220 HILTON AVE	X	X
224 HILTON AVE	X	X
232 HILTON AVE		X
240 HILTON AVE		X
254 HILTON AVE	X	X
262 HILTON AVE	X	X
266 HILTON AVE	X	X
270 HILTON AVE	X	X
338 HILTON AVE	X	X
340 HILTON AVE	X	X

Address	Board Up	Demolition
342 HILTON AVE		X
350 HILTON AVE	X	X
358 HILTON AVE		X
366 HILTON AVE	X	X
370 HILTON AVE	X	X
371 HILTON AVE	X	X
343 HILTON AVE	X	X
329 HILTON AVE		X
325 HILTON AVE	X	X
301 HILTON AVE	X	X
269 HILTON AVE	X	X
241 HILTON AVE	X	X
235 HILTON AVE	X	X
231 HILTON AVE	X	X
229 HILTON AVE	X	X
225 HILTON AVE		X
221 HILTON AVE		X
203 HILTON AVE		X
208 E RAVENWOOD AVE	X	X
212 E RAVENWOOD AVE		X
226 E RAVENWOOD AVE		X
234 E RAVENWOOD AVE	X	X
250 E RAVENWOOD AVE	X	X
308 E RAVENWOOD AVE	X	X
318 E RAVENWOOD AVE	X	X
328 E RAVENWOOD AVE		X
332 E RAVENWOOD AVE	X	X
366 E RAVENWOOD AVE		X
315 E RAVENWOOD AVE	X	X
235 E RAVENWOOD AVE	X	X
213 E RAVENWOOD AVE	X	X
3315 ERIE ST	X	X
246 E AUBURNDALE AVE		X
274 E AUBURNDALE AVE	X	X
347 E AUBURNDALE AVE		X
335 E AUBURNDALE AVE		X
323 E AUBURNDALE AVE	X	X
261 E AUBURNDALE AVE	X	X
257 E AUBURNDALE AVE	X	X
253 E AUBURNDALE AVE	X	X
245 E AUBURNDALE AVE	X	X
216 E LUCIUS AVE	X	X
220 E LUCIUS AVE	X	X
234 E LUCIUS AVE		X
252 E LUCIUS AVE	X	X
354 E LUCIUS AVE		X

Address	Board Up	Demolition
356 E LUCIUS AVE	X	X
351 E LUCIUS AVE	X	X
327 E LUCIUS AVE		X
307 E LUCIUS AVE		X
3303 RUSH BLVD		X
259 E LUCIUS AVE	X	X
237 E LUCIUS AVE	X	X
223 E LUCIUS AVE	X	X
215 E LUCIUS AVE	X	X
36 E AUBURNDALE AVE		X
11 E AUBURNDALE AVE		X
50 E RAVENWOOD AVE	X	X
78 E RAVENWOOD AVE	X	X
21 E RAVENWOOD AVE	X	X
3517 MARKET ST	X	X
20 HILTON AVE	X	X
30 HILTON AVE	X	X
44 HILTON AVE		X
68 HILTON AVE	X	X
84 HILTON AVE		X
71 HILTON AVE	X	X
65 HILTON AVE	X	X
47 HILTON AVE		X
35 HILTON AVE	X	X
27 HILTON AVE	X	X
32 E JUDSON AVE		X
44 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
64 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
67 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
45 E JUDSON AVE		X
27 E JUDSON AVE		X
25 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
11 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
3701 MARKET ST		X
3721 MARKET ST		X
4 LA BELLE AVE		X
30 LA BELLE AVE	X	X
34 LA BELLE AVE		X
52 LA BELLE AVE	X	X
60 LA BELLE AVE	X	X
80 LA BELLE AVE	X	X
87 LA BELLE AVE	X	X
71 LA BELLE AVE		X
31 LA BELLE AVE		X
128 E AUBURNDALE AVE		X
130 AUBURNDALE AVE	X	X

Address	Board Up	Demolition
144 E AUBURNDALE AVE		X
172 AUBURNDALE AVE	X	X
173 E AUBURNDALE AVE	X	X
169 E AUBURNDALE AVE	X	X
135 E AUBURNDALE AVE		X
131 E AUBURNDALE AVE		X
182 E RAVENWOOD AVE	X	X
188 E RAVENWOOD AVE		X
185 E RAVENWOOD AVE	X	X
181 E RAVENWOOD AVE	X	X
175 E RAVENWOOD AVE	X	X
171 E RAVENWOOD AVE		X
157 E RAVENWOOD AVE		X
153 E RAVENWOOD AVE		X
149 E RAVENWOOD AVE	X	X
127 E RAVENWOOD AVE	X	X
125 E RAVENWOOD AVE	X	X
136 HILTON AVE		X
150 HILTON AVE	X	X
180 HILTON AVE	X	X
195 HILTON AVE	X	X
145 HILTON AVE		X
111 HILTON		X
110 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
114 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
124 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
128 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
176 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
196 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
187 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
183 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
129 E JUDSON AVE		X
105 E JUDSON AVE	X	X
142 LA BELLE AVE	X	X
135 LA BELLE AVE	X	X
129 LA BELLE AVE	X	X
3718 ELBERTUS AVE	X	X
3717 ELBERTUS AVE	X	X
3721 ELBERTUS AVE		X
3726 ERIE ST	X	X
120 E PHILADELPHIA AVE	X	X
138 E PHILADELPHIA AVE	X	X
151 E BOSTON AVE	X	X
149 E BOSTON AVE	X	X
145 E BOSTON AVE	X	X
137 E BOSTON AVE	X	X

Address	Board Up	Demolition
120 BROOKLYN AVE		X
130 BROOKLYN AVE	X	X
152 BROOKLYN AVE		X
131 BROOKLYN AVE	X	X
146 E AVONDALE AVE	X	X
150 E AVONDALE AVE	X	X
166 E AVONDALE AVE	X	X
170 E AVONDALE AVE	X	X
165 E AVONDALE AVE	X	X
161 E AVONDALE AVE	X	X
121 E AVONDALE AVE		X
106 E LUCIUS AVE		X
120 E LUCIUS AVE		X
136 E LUCIUS AVE	X	X
160 E LUCIUS AVE	X	X
166 E LUCIUS AVE	X	X
155 E LUCIUS AVE	X	X
22 E LUCIUS AVE	X	X
39 E AVONDALE AVE		X
31 E AVONDALE AVE		X
30 E AVONDALE AVE		X
36 E AVONDALE AVE		X
64 E AVONDALE AVE		X
53 BROOKLYN AVE		X
51 BROOKLYN AVE	X	X
54 BROOKLYN AVE	X	X
60 BROOKLYN AVE	X	X
26 E BOSTON AVE	X	X
21 E PHILADELPHIA AVE	X	X
85 E PHILADELPHIA AVE	X	X
81 E PHILADELPHIA AVE		X
448 E INDIANOLA AVE	X	X
444 E INDIANOLA AVE	X	X
342 E INDIANOLA AVE		X
338 E INDIANOLA AVE		X
325 E INDIANOLA AVE	X	X
97 E FLORIDA AVE	X	X
129 E FLORIDA AVE	X	X
142 E FLORIDA AVE	X	X
216 E FLORIDA AVE		X
217 E FLORIDA AVE	X	X
219 E FLORIDA AVE	X	
226 E FLORIDA AVE		X
254 E FLORIDA AVE	X	X
337 E FLORIDA AVE	X	X
340 E FLORIDA AVE	X	X

Address	Board Up	Demolition
345 E FLORIDA AVE	X	X
369 CORNELL	X	X
2715 RUSH	X	X
2747 RUSH		X
2804 RUSH		X
355 MARMION		X
362 MARMION	X	X
377 MARMION		X
385 MARMION		X
318 E AVONDALE	X	X
129 E LUCIUS		X
229 E RAVENWOOD	X	X

# APPENDIX 2. PUBLIC INPUT

The following input was obtained from residents at a neighborhood meeting on March 4, 2014 at the Newport Public Library. Attendees were asked to list what they believed to be their neighborhood's top three assets and top three priorities.

Neighborhood Assets		
Homestead Park	Pemberton Park	Playgrounds
High number of active blockwatches	Homeownership by residents	Uninhabited homes to be demolished for land accessibility
Vacant lots for business expansion	Vacant lots for business opportunities	Newport library
History	Church	Church
Places of Worship	St. Dominic's	St. Dominic's
Access to I-680	Access to I-680	Businesses
Handel's	History of Businesses	Quiet Area for the Most Part
Mooney High School	Taft School	

Neighborhood Priorities		
Utilize residents for Grass Cutting, ect	Empty Lots (no one takes care of)	Code enforcement
Increase accountability of residents	Penalize negligence at all properties	Penalize owners or renters
Vacant homes	Eliminate the uninhabitable homes that are currently posing health hazards to neighboring homes	Vacant houses
Park or playgrounds for multitude of our children	Playgrounds	Potholes
Control the youth as they are the ones who are engaging in criminal, damaging behavior	Crime	Penalize littering

"One thing we need to know"		
better police protection	there are several squatters living in some of the abandoned homes. Need to send people out and see how horrific some of these dwellings are	enforce the laws in this city as to crime/juveniles - don't smack them on the wrist!!! It may cut down on crime
crime causing business flight from city (not including downtown area)	let people who can afford buy the houses that is still in pretty good shape for \$1. improve the streets. More patrol cars in the BAD areas	investments of business people is priority
city council should not allow fracking or injection wells within the city limits	check with homeowners before sending letter with ultimatums	enforce zoning laws
enforce zoning violations	the 6th ward has the fewest zoning complaints of the 7 wards	starts @ quality of life > code enforcement > home ownership > neighborhood > "quality of life" END
replace houses with houses not gardens. Start holding homeowners accountable for keeping their property up	close foster theater	increase desire to live in a neighborhood
I am sure that if improvements are not made more people will be moving out of ytown	clean street and park	bad conditions of sidewalks and curbing
a persons who actually lives in the neighborhood should give the presentation - "get to know your neighborhoods" before you need them	church folk and city leaders need to walk the streets and get to know residents	no more outside contractors for clean up, grass cutting - use our own unemployed ex-felons!
better communication between local officials & state & federal officials	get politics out of your decision process	the need to increase youth activities

# **COTTAGE GROVE NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION PLAN**



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