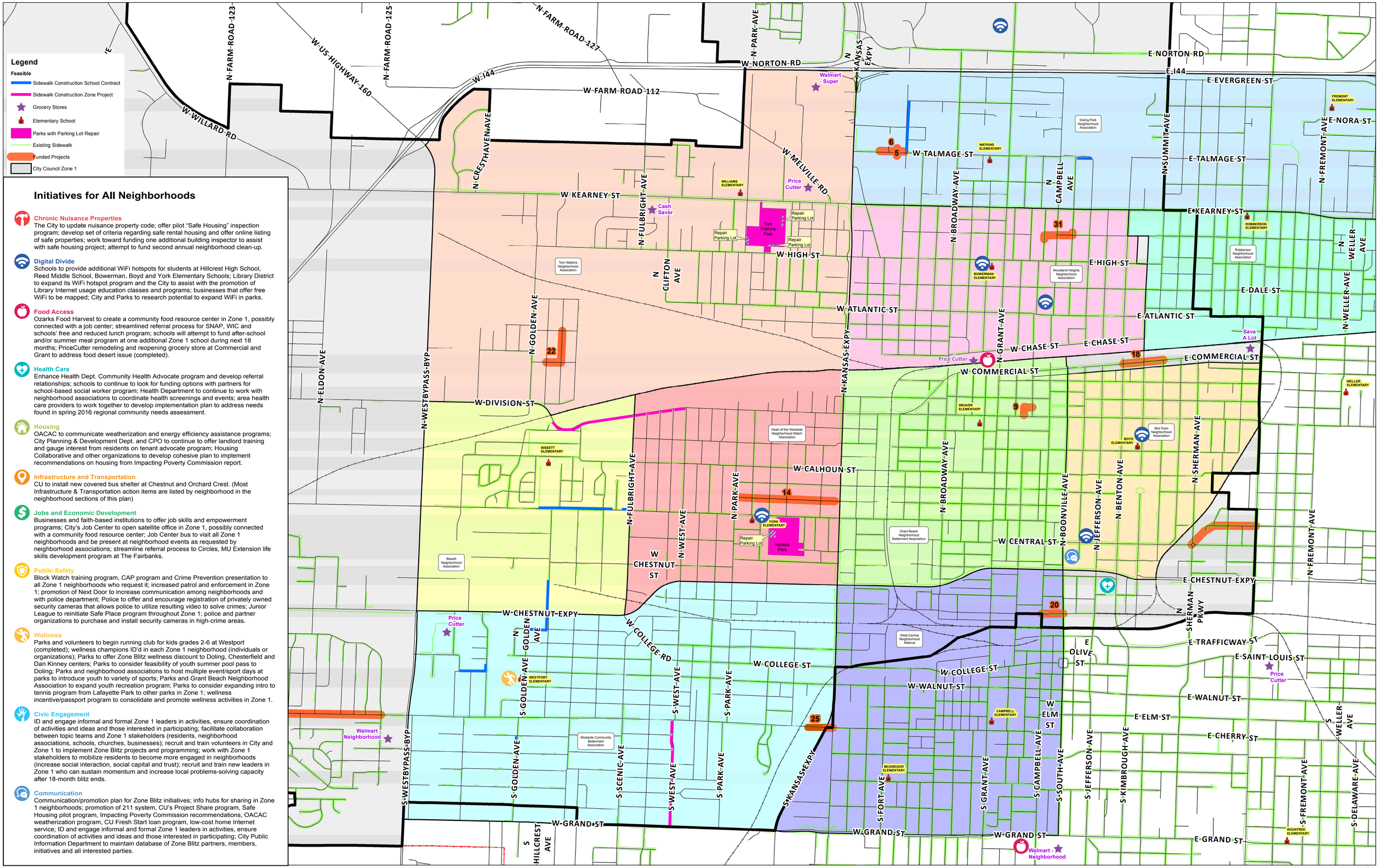
Zone 1 Projects



Initiatives for All Neighborhoods

Chronic Nuisance Properties
The City to update nuisance property code; offer pilot "Safe Housing" inspection program; develop set of criteria regarding safe rental housing and offer online listing of safe properties; work toward funding one additional building inspector to assist with safe housing project; attempt to fund second annual neighborhood clean-up.

Digital Divide
Schools to provide additional WiFi hotspots for students at Hillcrest High School, Reed Middle School, Bowerman, Boyd and York Elementary Schools; Library District to expand its WiFi hotspot program and the City to assist with the promotion of Library Internet usage education classes and programs; businesses that offer free WiFi to be mapped; City and Parks to research potential to expand WiFi in parks.

Food Access
Ozarks Food Harvest to create a community food resource center in Zone 1, possibly connected with a job center; streamlined referral process for SNAP, WIC and schools' free and reduced lunch program; schools will attempt to fund after-school and/or summer meal program at one additional Zone 1 school during next 18 months; PriceCutter remodeling and reopening grocery store at Commercial and Grant to address food desert issue (completed).

Health Care
Enhance Health Dept. Community Health Advocate program and develop referral relationships; schools to continue to look for funding options with partners for school-based social worker program; Health Department to continue to work with neighborhood associations to coordinate health screenings and events; area health care providers to work together to develop implementation plan to address needs found in spring 2016 regional community needs assessment.

Housing
OACAC to communicate weatherization and energy efficiency assistance programs; City Planning & Development Dept. and CPO to continue to offer landlord training and gauge interest from residents on tenant advocate program; Housing Collaborative and other organizations to develop cohesive plan to implement recommendations on housing from Impacting Poverty Commission report.

Infrastructure and Transportation
CU to install new covered bus shelter at Chestnut and Orchard Crest. (Most Infrastructure & Transportation action items are listed by neighborhood in the neighborhood sections of this plan)

Jobs and Economic Development
Businesses and faith-based institutions to offer job skills and empowerment programs; City's Job Center to open satellite office in Zone 1, possibly connected with a community food resource center; Job Center bus to visit all Zone 1 neighborhoods and be present at neighborhood events as requested by neighborhood associations; streamline referral process to Circles, MU Extension life skills development program at The Fairbanks.

Public Safety
Block Watch training program, CAP program and Crime Prevention presentation to all Zone 1 neighborhoods who request it; increased patrol and enforcement in Zone 1; promotion of Next Door to increase communication among neighborhoods and with police department; Police to offer and encourage registration of privately owned security cameras that allows police to utilize resulting video to solve crimes; Junior League to reinitiate Safe Place program throughout Zone 1; police and partner organizations to purchase and install security cameras in high-crime areas.

Wellness
Parks and volunteers to begin running club for kids grades 2-6 at Westport (completed); wellness champions ID'd in each Zone 1 neighborhood (individuals or organizations); Parks to offer Zone Blitz wellness discount to Doling, Chesterfield and Dan Kinney centers; Parks to consider feasibility of youth summer pool pass to Doling; Parks and neighborhood associations to host multiple event/sport days at parks to introduce youth to variety of sports; Parks and Grant Beach Neighborhood Association to expand youth recreation program; Parks to consider expanding intro to tennis program from Lafayette Park to other parks in Zone 1; wellness incentive/passport program to consolidate and promote wellness activities in Zone 1.

Civic Engagement
ID and engage informal and formal Zone 1 leaders in activities, ensure coordination of activities and ideas and those interested in participating; facilitate collaboration between topic teams and Zone 1 stakeholders (residents, neighborhood associations, schools, churches, businesses); recruit and train volunteers in City and Zone 1 to implement Zone Blitz projects and programming; work with Zone 1 stakeholders to mobilize residents to become more engaged in neighborhoods (increase social interaction, social capital and trust); recruit and train new leaders in Zone 1 who can sustain momentum and increase local problems-solving capacity after 18-month blitz ends.

Communication
Communication/promotion plan for Zone Blitz initiatives; info hubs for sharing in Zone 1 neighborhoods; promotion of 211 system, CU's Project Share program, Safe Housing pilot program, Impacting Poverty Commission recommendations, OACAC weatherization program, CU Fresh Start loan program, low-cost home Internet service; ID and engage informal and formal Zone 1 leaders in activities, ensure coordination of activities and ideas and those interested in participating; City Public Information Department to maintain database of Zone Blitz partners, members, initiatives and all interested parties.

CITY OF Springfield

Zone Blitz initiatives are defined as: Problems or opportunities identified in the Northwest quadrant of Springfield, MO (Council Zone 1), that are being addressed by Zone Blitz partners any time after June 1, 2015.

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