



2019 East End Team Up to Clean Up

A bit of history on What Team Up to Clean Up is...

This year we continue the Topeka Team Up to Clean Up (TUCU) project with two more neighborhoods! Developed in May of 2018 by city staff, the effort uses specific guidelines to select neighborhoods based on the City of Topeka Neighborhood health map. In looking at the health map we concentrate on neighborhood areas considered to be intensive care. The second requirement is selecting a neighborhood that has active participation from the neighborhood's Neighborhood Improvement Association (NIA).

The Team Up to Clean Up efforts that happen in the selected neighborhoods require a massive team effort including collaborative participation from NIA's, residents, volunteers from partnering agencies, and city departments. Donated services, tools and resources also come from variety of other area organizations. The overall goal after leaving the neighborhood is to leave the NIA with the tools and resources they need to improve the overall health ratings of the area. This is achieved by personalized classes on property maintenance, providing city resources that neighbors might not be aware of, talking to neighbors about what their issues and concerns are and much more.



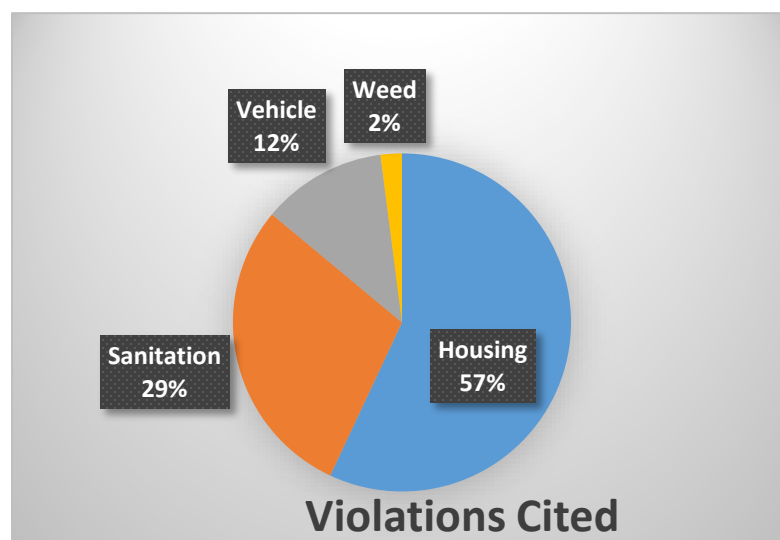
What did we do in the East End Neighborhood?

Topeka Fire Department

- Topeka Fire Department in partnership with American Red cross provided smoke detectors for residents in need. There were 14 detectors installed.
- TFD walked through the East End neighborhood handing out smoke detector applications, discussed fire safety with residents, and installed house numbers (provided by Kansas Gas and Ace Hardware). Numbers were installed on mail boxes and houses on 93 residences.

Neighborhood Relations Department

- On Monday, April 22nd the Community Engagement division of Neighborhood Relations partnered with Advisors Excel to bring event “Rock the Block” to the East End. They worked on collecting disposed debris from the streets, alleys and yards of neighbors from SE 6th and Branner Traffic way to Rice Road and SE Norwood.
- Sidewalk panel repairs were addressed and costs were covered on 12 different sidewalk projects.
- On Thursday, April 11th the division hosted a community resource fair at the Rice Community Center which included 34 vendors from the community, including; City of Topeka, Habitat for Humanity, Positive Connections and many more.
- Clean up of dump-site located at SE 10th and Hackberry to SE 9th and Hackberry.
- Collected demographic information such as, age range of households, likes and dislikes of neighborhood, concerns, programs or services needed in area and NIA involvement.
- Neighborhood Relations, Shawnee County Parks and Rec and 12 neighbors from the area partnered for a pancake feed and walk in talk in the area. They surveyed 31 residents in the area to listen to their concerns of the neighborhood and help them get the resources needed to assist in the overall health of the neighborhood.
- Assessed every property in the East End neighborhood for code violations.
 - 250 properties were cited and 348 cases were opened
 - Inspectors spoke to area residents and offered advice and options to address the code violations
 - City resource reference lists were provided to all properties cited



Topeka Police Department

- Warnings and citations were issued for illegally parked vehicles in the neighborhood
- Conducted a knock and talk with the community to address concerns on crime and safety in the area
- Community officer attended the April 11th resource fair to meet the neighbors and listen to any specific concerns they might have
- Attended 2 East End Meetings (NIA March 14, 2019 Resource Fair April 11, 2019)
- Dedicated approximately 25 hours of focused patrol in the east end area to address specific concerns heard from the neighborhood
- Dedicated an additional 16 hours patrolling Rice Community Center in reference to concerns from citizens of illegal activity in the parking lot

Public Works Department

- Completed an inventory of signs and began fabricating replacement and additional signs needed
- Installed new street signs as needed
- Review done of uncontrolled intersections
- Removed 7 trees

Planning and Development Department

- Zoning inspections performed for all properties in neighborhood
 - 5 violations cited; 4 of those were remedied and closed
 - A remaining violation is being processed involving unpermitted accessory structures and vehicle-related use on a lot without a primary structure.

Utilities Department

- Clean up of the bridge crossing on Fairfax
- Clean up of sidewalks and inlets
- Clean up of brush in the channel
- Maintenance of water main valves
- Pressure checked hydrants in the area
- 294 meter exchanges which included meter pit cleanings
- Collections inspected and cleaned 55 storm water inlets, approximately 1,000' of channel north of 4th street as well as outfall pipes into the channel
- Distribution inspected and maintained 67 hydrants and 69 valves

Organization Representation at April 11th Resource Fair

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| • Neighborhood Relations, COT | • Topeka Zoo | • TSCPL |
| • Municipal Court, COT | • City Manager, COT | • The Gil Carter Initiative, Inc. |
| • Human Relations, COT | • SeeClickFix (TSG & City Manager Office) | • Kansas Children's Service League |
| • Topeka Police, COT | • Let's Help | • Topeka Habitat for Humanity |
| • Topeka Fire, COT | • Community Action, Inc. | • Child Care Aware of Eastern Kansas |
| • Utilities, COT | • Westar Energy | • Washburn Tech |
| • Finance, COT | • East Topeka Community Center | • Kansas Board of Regents |
| • Planning & Development Services, COT | • Kansas Gas | • Pine Ridge Health Center |
| • Emergency Management, COT | • Topeka Metro | |
| | • JAAA | |

- Positive Connections
- Housing & Credit Counseling, Inc.
- Mirror Work for Success Dads Program
- Orion Topeka

Habitat for Humanity has been our leading partner on this event

Habitat for Humanity conducted the following:

- **Siding Repair Workshop - Wednesday, April 17th from 11am - Noon** at Rice Community Center. Staff walked residents through the various types of siding that are present in that neighborhood - concrete, asbestos and wood and how to do small repair and resources available.
- **Gutter Maintenance Workshop - Wednesday, April 24 from 2pm - 3pm** at Rice Community Center. This workshop addressed gutter maintenance issues, how to reattach gutter screws and the importance of having gutters (as a large portion of homes have none!)
- **Saturday, April 27th - Tool Bus Deployment.** The Tool Bus was parked at New Hope Community Baptist Church at 436 SE Fairfax starting at 8:30 am. They had Westar volunteers from 9-12 to help address exterior repairs, minor painting requests and sanitation issues. The ReStore pick-up truck was also on hand that day to load large items in the truck to transport to the dumpster provide by Shawnee County, allowing them to address sanitation violations.
- Habitat conducted a walk and talk about these events, as well as flyers and information to pass out at the resource fair.

Community Partners

Ace Hardware
Advisors Excel
America Red Cross
Habitat for Humanity
Kansas Gas
Shawnee County Parks and Recreation
Westar

Completed TUCU Neighborhoods Include

2018 Spring: Historic Old Town Neighborhood
2018 Summer: Central Park Neighborhood
2019 Spring: East End Neighborhood

Upcoming TUCU Neighborhoods Include

2019 Fall: Ward Meade Neighborhood

For more information on becoming involved or volunteering for future Team up to Clean Up initiatives, please contact Kelly Baker in the City Manager's Office at (785) 368-3725 or email kbaker@topeka.org.

<https://www.topeka.org/neighborhoodrelations/team-up-to-clean-up/>