In September 2018, we released our first pilot Neighborhood Litter Control Plan, created in partnership with the Southwest Community Development Corporation (CDC) and many other organizations serving the southwest section of the city. We expect to take the experience of this effort to other Philadelphia neighborhoods and to continue to work with stakeholders in Southwest Philadelphia on litter abatement and prevention strategies.

**NEEDS ASSESSMENT WORK AND PRELIMINARY ACTIONS**

Through the Neighborhood Litter Control Plan process, City agencies and community organizations work together to engage residents and other stakeholders in identifying the most pressing litter and illegal dumping-related issues in a neighborhood.

Earlier this year, the Philadelphia Streets Department and Zero Waste and Litter Cabinet were joined by residents and many other stakeholders at community feedback sessions, where a set of programs and initiatives were identified for the area and then implemented.

**HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE**

The Streets Department Neighborhood Recovery Project was conducted. This program includes the following activities in areas targeted through the Litter Index:

- Increased SWEEP ticketing for litter violations, for a total of 197 tickets from March 1 to May 31, 2018
- Cleanup of illegal dumping on 27 lots for a total of 216 tons of debris from March 1 to May 31, 2018
- Continued maintenance of cleaned areas and continued ticketing

Philadelphia Future Track participants worked in teams across Southwest Philadelphia on various cleaning, transportation, and sanitation-related projects. Future Track’s work resulted in:

- 28.17 tons of debris removed from three alleys
- 16.79 tons of debris removed from two vacant lots
- 100.34 tons of debris removed on 34 blocks
- 15.06 tons total for 575 tires removed from the area
The Philadelphia More Beautiful Committee Block Captain Network continues to work hard to recruit new Block Captains and further engage existing Block Captains.

Amtrak and SEPTA installed 50 “No Dumping” signs along the corridor and coordinated “track outages,” which allow both organizations to conduct cleaning and graffiti removal. Both organizations are also committed to securing any open fencing and have begun coordinated cleanups, with major cleaning of multiple sites. The Airport Line runs along this neighborhood.

The Philadelphia Police Department Neighborhood Services Unit towed 568 abandoned automobiles in Southwest Philadelphia between January 1 and June 30, 2018.

Philadelphia Licenses and Inspections took action against six automotive shops that were out of compliance.

This year’s Philly Spring Cleanup signature site was Ezekiel Baptist Church on 57th St. and Grays Ave. as part of this Neighborhood Litter Control Plan. 56 projects were conducted within the Neighborhood Litter Control Plan boundaries.

NEIGHBORHOOD INTERVENTIONS

As a direct result of community feedback, five interventions were determined as key to sustained neighborhood beautification throughout Southwest Philadelphia. These interventions are intended to address the main causes of litter as identified by both community stakeholders and the City: vacant land and open space that lead to illegal dumping, a lack of lighting in strategic areas to deter illegal dumping and other crimes, and scrap yards and automotive shops. The five interventions developed for Southwest Philadelphia are:

- Illegal Dumping Enforcement
- Vacant Land Stabilization
- Beautification Efforts
- Block Captain Recruitment and Engagement
- Communications

Read the full plan at cleanphl.org/portfolio-item/southwestlitterplan to learn about each of these interventions and how the City plans to measure success. The City plans to revisit this plan with the Southwest Philadelphia community on a quarterly basis to track progress, address concerns in a timely manner, and take advantage of new opportunities as they arise. We will also use the annual litter indexing to monitor improvements in litter scores on specific blocks and vacant lots as well as across the entire geographic boundaries of this plan.