

Tippecanoe Housing Solutions Coalition

Substandard Housing Task Force Charge & Composition

Overview

The Tippecanoe Housing Solutions Coalition is establishing a **Substandard Housing Task Force** to develop actionable recommendations to increase the habitability and safety of county rental units and homes. We are seeking **diverse and committed individuals** to serve on this time-limited advisory board tasked with implementing solutions to decrease the cost and negative impact of renting or owning substandard housing in Tippecanoe County.

Purpose of the Task Force

The Substandard Housing Task Force will examine key issues impacting housing in our county and advise decision-makers on solutions, including:

- Strategies to mitigate the negative health and financial outcomes of substandard housing
- Recommendations on code enforcement and code violation reporting strategies
- Gaining community support from tenants, landlords, city staff members, property managers, and neighbors for programs, funding sources, and code enforcement tactics to increase safe housing and decrease housing instability
- Ensuring housing equity and opportunities for low-income households, seniors, and individuals with disabilities.

Composition of Task Force Members

We are committed to building a task force that reflects the **diversity of our community** and welcomes members from all backgrounds and sectors, including:

- Residents with recent experience living in substandard rental units or homes
- Housing developers of all sizes and missions (nonprofit developers, faith-based organizations, small incremental developers, and large multi-family developers)
- Landlords, property managers, tenants, and tenant representatives
- Nonprofit and neighborhood leaders as well as community-based housing advocates
- Experts in home repair and rehabilitation programs and financing
- Housing professionals (attorneys, architects, engineers, construction firms)
- Housing policy experts (tenants' rights, landlord disputes, leasing, codes)
- County and municipality staff and elected leaders

Time Commitment

- Term: An initial term of 6-9 months to move ideas to action and experience short-term success. Additional terms may be added to continue momentum and guide future decision-making processes.
- Meetings: Monthly 90-minute virtual and/or in-person meetings. Individual meetings may focus on specific strategies, and not all task force members will be engaged in each session.

Key Responsibilities

- Attend and contribute to task force meetings and events.
 - Offer perspectives on housing issues that are grounded in personal, professional, or community experience.
 - Provide input on gaps, evaluation data, policies, and models.
 - Listen, collaborate, and build consensus.
- Assist with or lead solution implementation tasks, as able.
 - Serve as a “Connector” or liaison to community groups and stakeholders to increase awareness of issues, stress the importance of the work, and share how they can assist in implementing selected solutions.
 - Serve as an “Information Specialist” to research and share knowledge in implementing solutions. Information Specialists can also be “early adopters” to test if solutions work and achieve desired results.
 - Serve as “Doer” or someone who can assist with task-related duties such as:
 - ♣ Change current processes
 - ♣ Find resources
 - ♣ Estimate costs
 - ♣ Develop action plans, assign duties, monitor progress, ensure tasks are completed
 - ♣ Take notes during meetings, create detailed checklists/spreadsheets, craft messages, set meeting dates
 - ♣ Create metrics, monitor metrics, and share community results
 - ♣ Document learnings

Questions? Contact Kara Boyles kboyles@lafayette.in.gov and Chad Spitznagle cspitznagle@westlafayette.in.gov.