



CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

BlightSTAT

Reporting Period: July, 2015

www.nola.gov/opa



Office of Performance and Accountability

Agenda

- **Intake**
- **Inspections**
- **Hearings**
- **Abatement**
 - Abatement Reviews
 - Sheriff's Sales
 - Demolitions
 - Lot Clearing
- **Commercial Properties Update**
- **Reinvestment**



INTRODUCTION



Purpose and Scope

Purpose: The Landrieu Administration developed a strategic framework to map out the City's overall direction. The framework links services, programs, strategies, objectives, and goals to the City's mission, values, and vision, and incorporates performance measures to assess performance.

In BlightSTAT, City leaders and managers review key performance results related to the Mayor's strategy to reduce blighted properties by 10,000 by the end of 2014. In order to improve results, City leaders and managers review and assess progress achieved, overall trend data, and the likelihood of meeting performance targets. For programs at risk of not meeting targets, leaders and managers identify prospects and tactics for performance improvement, and make adjustments to operational plans as needed. To account to citizens and Councilmembers for the spending of resources provided, BlightSTAT meetings are open to the public.

Scope: BlightSTAT focuses on the Citywide, cross-departmental issue of blight. BlightSTAT does not focus on performance managed in other STAT programs or initiatives, nor does it include in depth discussions of complaints about specific locations.

***Questions and Comments:** Index cards are available to the public at the sign-in table, which can be used to submit questions and comments or to report specific issues. Throughout the meeting, completed cards will be reviewed. General questions and comments may be discussed by the group and specific issues will be assigned to departments.*



City Strategic Framework

Mission

The City of New Orleans delivers excellent service to its citizens with courage, competence and compassion.

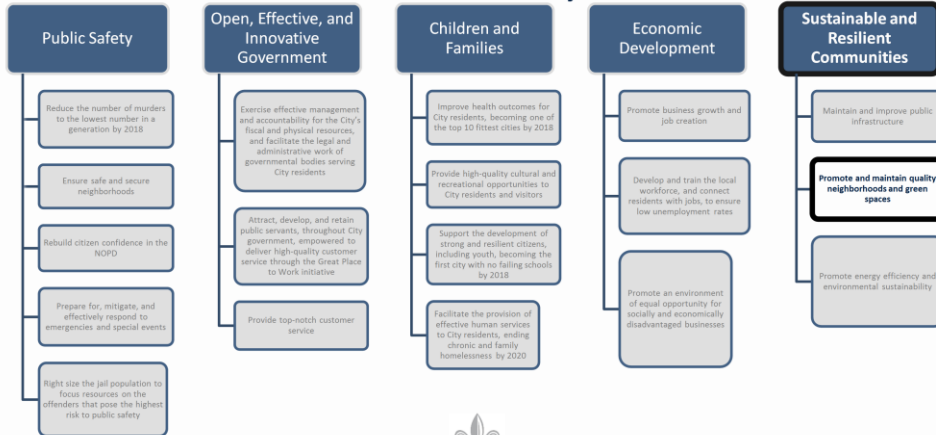
Values

Integrity, Excellence, Transparency, Teamwork, Responsiveness, Innovation, Diversity and Inclusion

Vision

New Orleans is a model city. We are a unified city. We are a creative city.

Result Area Goals and Objectives



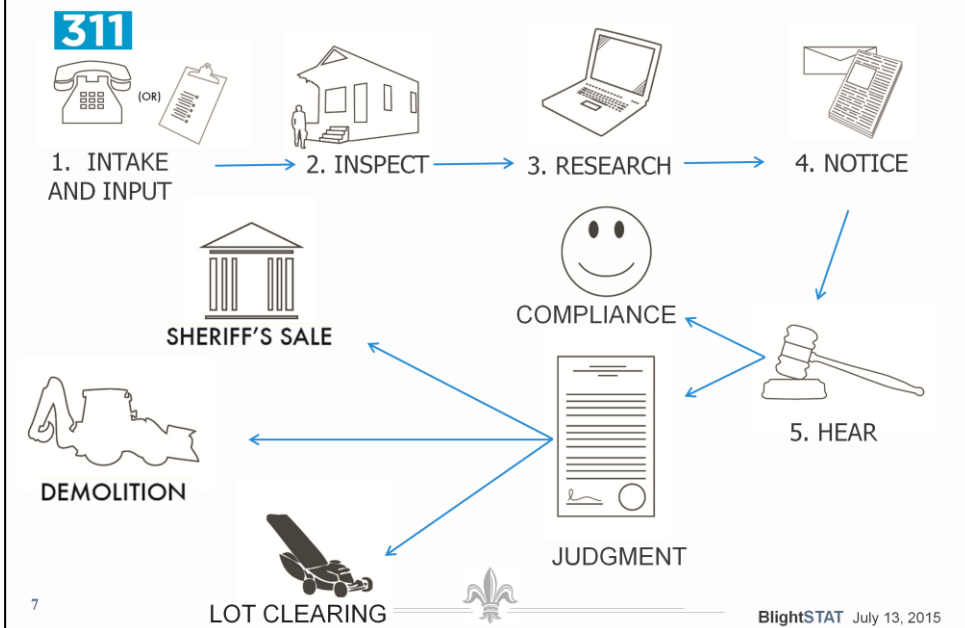
Strategic Framework

Goal: Support sustainable communities that integrate quality housing, transportation, schools, commercial development, energy efficiency, parks and green space, flood protection and cultural assets.

Objectives and Strategies	Outcome Measures
Maintain and improve public infrastructure 1. ★ Maintain and improve road surface infrastructure, including implementation of Recovery Roads program and Sewerage and Water Board water and sewer line replacement 2. Consistently implement Complete Streets philosophy in streets investments 3. ★ Effectively administer the City's capital improvements program to include significant investments in parks, playgrounds, libraries, community centers, and public safety facilities 4. ★ Optimize the City's subsurface drainage infrastructure to ensure resilient neighborhoods, including implementation of the Urban Water Plan 5. ★ Expand transportation options for residents to encourage mass transit, including bus and streetcar development, and bike sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percent of citizens rating condition of streets good or very good • Mean travel time to work • Percentage of workers commuting to work by means other than driving alone • Percent of citizens rating drainage/flood control good or very good • Percent of citizens rating public transportation good or very good • Percent of citizens rating traffic congestion good or very good
Promote and maintain quality neighborhoods and green spaces 1. ★ Maintain current strategies and launch new strategies for blight 2. Provide access to quality, affordable, secure housing 3. Provide effective sanitation services to residents and businesses 4. Protect and preserve parks and other green spaces 5. Regulate land use to support safe, vibrant neighborhoods and preserve historic properties 6. ★ Enhance access and use of the riverfront area to improve the quality of life of riverfront neighborhoods including development of Crescent Park and other public green spaces along the Mississippi River 7. ★ Implement plans to spur investment along the Claiborne Corridor including Choice neighborhoods investments in the greater Iberville/Tremé neighborhood 8. ★ Develop an implementation strategy for the next phase of the Lower 9th Ward 9. ★ Bring transformational commercial redevelopment projects to underserved neighborhoods, such as New Orleans East 10. ★ Develop and implement a master plan for lakefront communities, including West End and the Municipal Yacht Harbor 11. ★ Implement the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance 12. ★ Improve commitment to monitoring and enforcing environmental health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percent of parcels in fair or good condition • Percent of citizens rating control of trash and litter / trash pickup good or very good • ParkScore (based on acreage, service and investment, and access) • Percent of citizens rating zoning good or very good • Percent of households paying more than 30% of income on housing
Promote energy efficiency and environmental sustainability 1. Restore the City's marshes and coastline 2. Promote green energy and other sustainability measures 3. Remediate brownfields, lead, and other environmental hazards 4. ★ Replace and repair streetlights with energy efficient technology 5. ★ Develop and implement a resiliency master plan under the direction of a Chief Resiliency Officer 6. ★ Promote recycling 7. ★ Develop an effective solid waste management plan and implement new strategies in order to increase the services available to residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percent of days with healthy air quality • Number of health based drinking water violations • Number of certified green buildings • Number of land acres in Orleans Parish • Percent of City's streetlight network retrofitted with LED technology



Overview of the Blight Reduction Process





INSPECT



Responsible Organization:
Code Enforcement

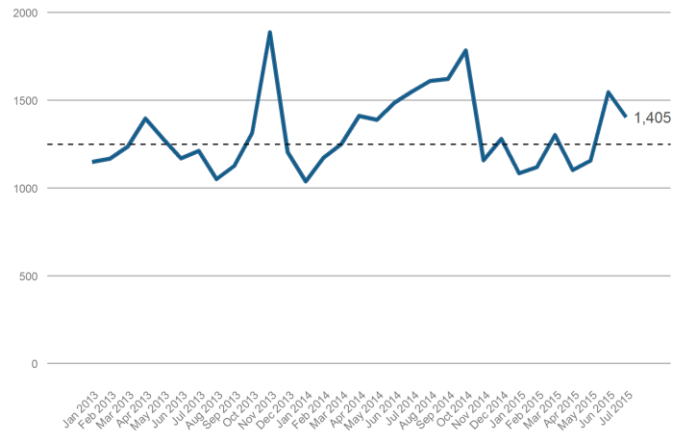
Data Source:
LAMA

Definitions:
Inspection: An evaluation of a property to determine if it is in violation of City codes. Inspections can include initial inspections, reinspections, postings of hearings, posting of judgments, and demolition inspections.

Note:
Demolition inspection numbers are not captured in data.nola.gov. These come from Code Enforcement.

Inspections remained above target for July.

Number of Inspections



Data for July 2015 is preliminary



BlightSTAT July 13, 2015

Responsible Organization:
Code Enforcement

Data Source:
LAMA

Definitions:

New Cases:
Any case that is opened after
January 1st, 2013

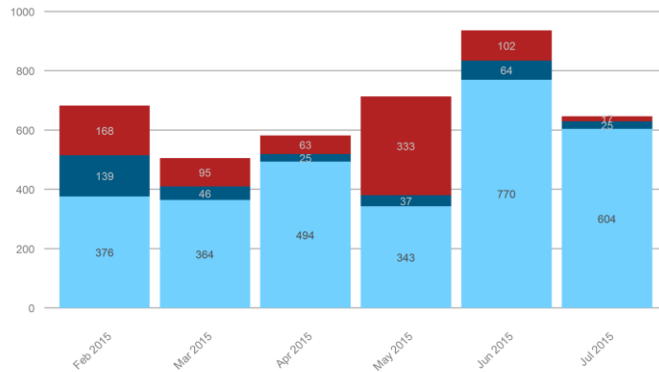
New Initial Inspection:
An initial inspection on a new
case. New initial inspections
are a subset of the initial
inspections shown on the
previous slide

Queue: The list of all new
cases awaiting inspection

The vast majority of inspections conducted in July were less than 30 days old.

Age of Completed New Inspections

■ Less than 30 Days Old ■ 30-90 Days Old ■ Greater than 90 Days Old



BlightSTAT July 13, 2015

Responsible Organization:
Code Enforcement

Data Source:
LAMA

Definitions:

New Cases:
Any case that is opened after
January 1st, 2013

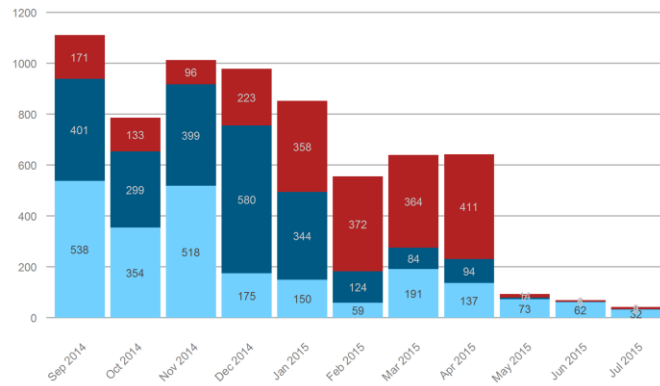
New Initial Inspection:
An initial inspection on a new
case. New initial inspections
are a subset of the initial
inspections shown on the
previous slide

Queue: The list of all new
cases awaiting inspection

The inspection backlog remained low in July.

Age of Open Cases

Less than 30 Days Old 30-90 Days Old Greater than 90 Days Old

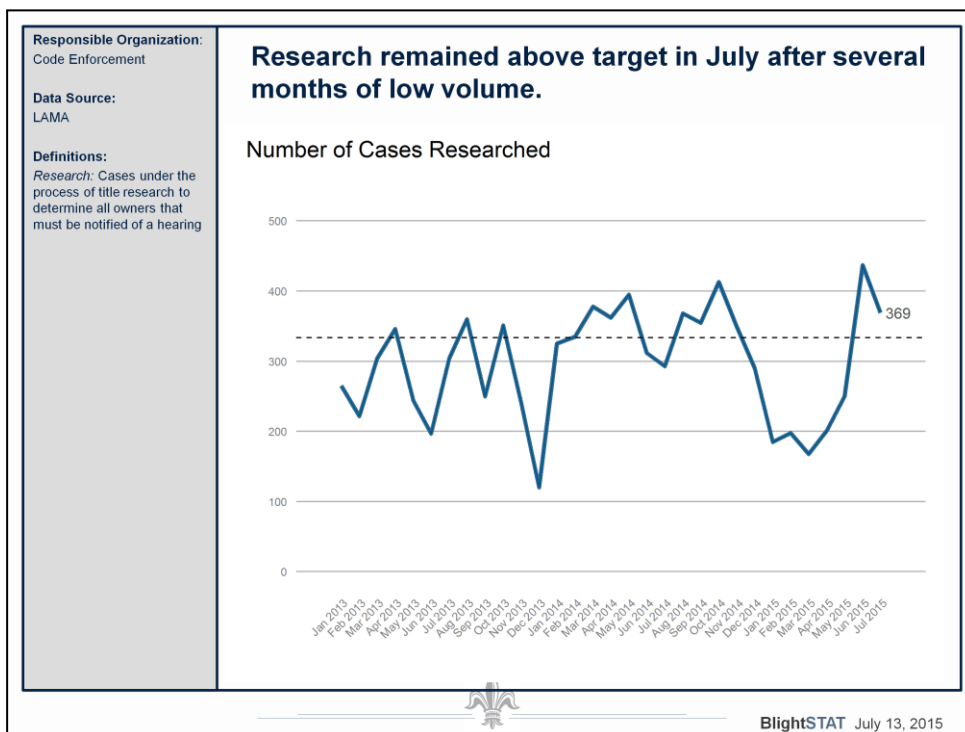


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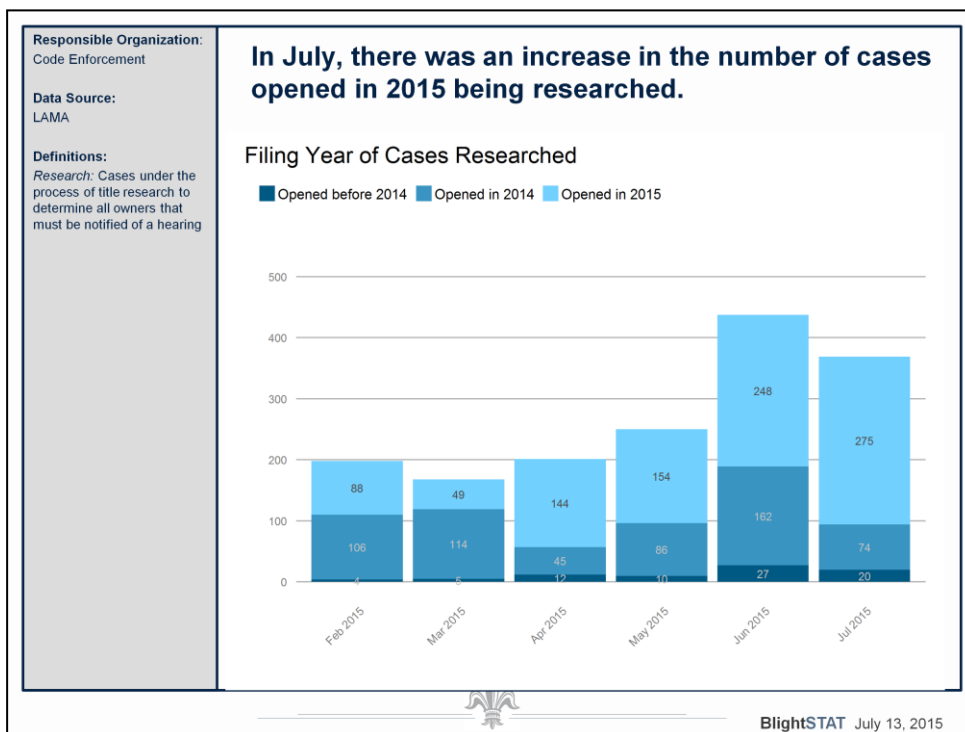


HEAR

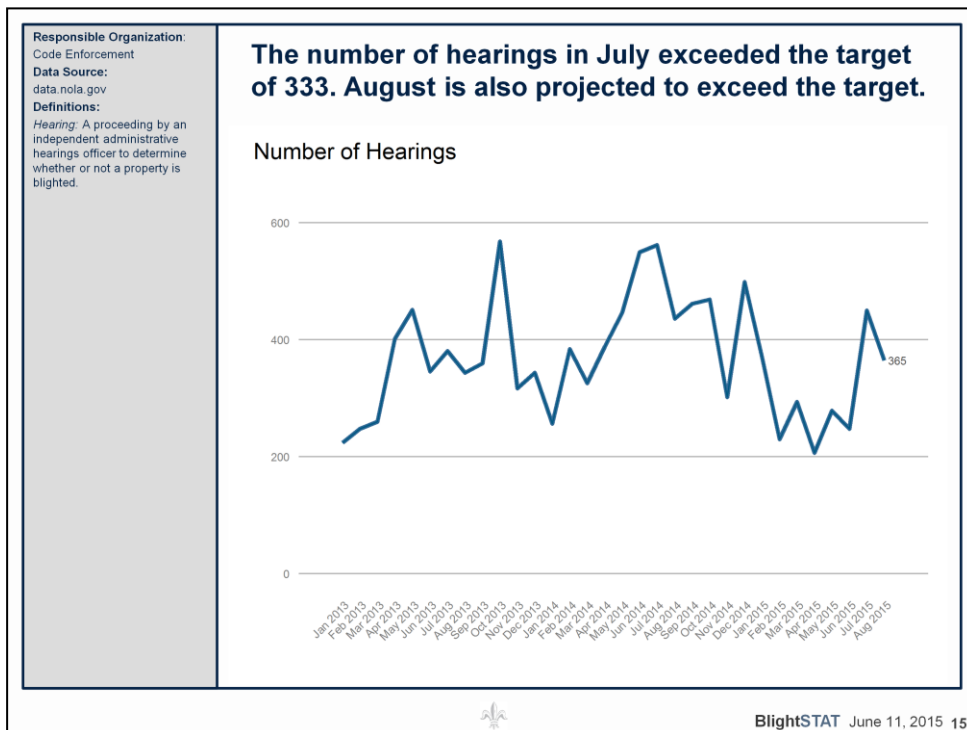




The June and July spike in research demonstrate that the investments made earlier in the year, when the number of full-time research staff increased from 3 to 8, is paying off. The July research numbers also include title research completed under a small pilot contract with a private title company. The pilot was very successful, and Code Enforcement will initiate a larger-scale RFP to continue it into the future.



The former council liaison, who also contributed to case facilitation and research tasks, has accepted a private sector position. Code Enforcement is diligently working to fill this position and fill in the research, facilitation, and communications roles.



After a slow start in 2015, Code Enforcement is confident that they will meet the year-end target of 4,000 hearings.

Responsible Organization:

Code Enforcement

Data Source: LAMA

Definitions:

Guilty: A hearing where the

property is judged to be blighted

Violations Abated: A hearing

where the property is judged not

to be blighted (though fines from

previous violations may be

levied). As of June 2014,

judgments of "Dismissed

Abated" are counted under

Violations Abated.

Work in Progress: A hearing

where the property is not yet in

compliance but the owner has

proof that they are in the

process of bringing it up to code

Insufficient Notice: A hearing

where Code Enforcement did

not give the property owner the

necessary amount of time

before the hearing, leading to

the case being reset

No Reinspection: A hearing

where Code Enforcement failed

to inspect the property in

sufficient time (five days),

leading to the case being reset

Other Legal Issue: Cases reset

or closed for factors beyond

Code Enforcement's control. In

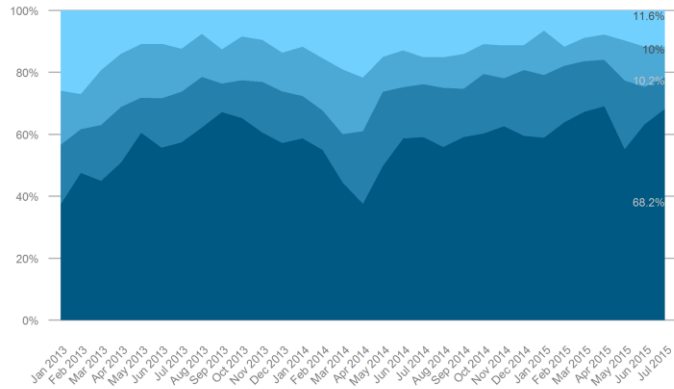
many cases the property is in

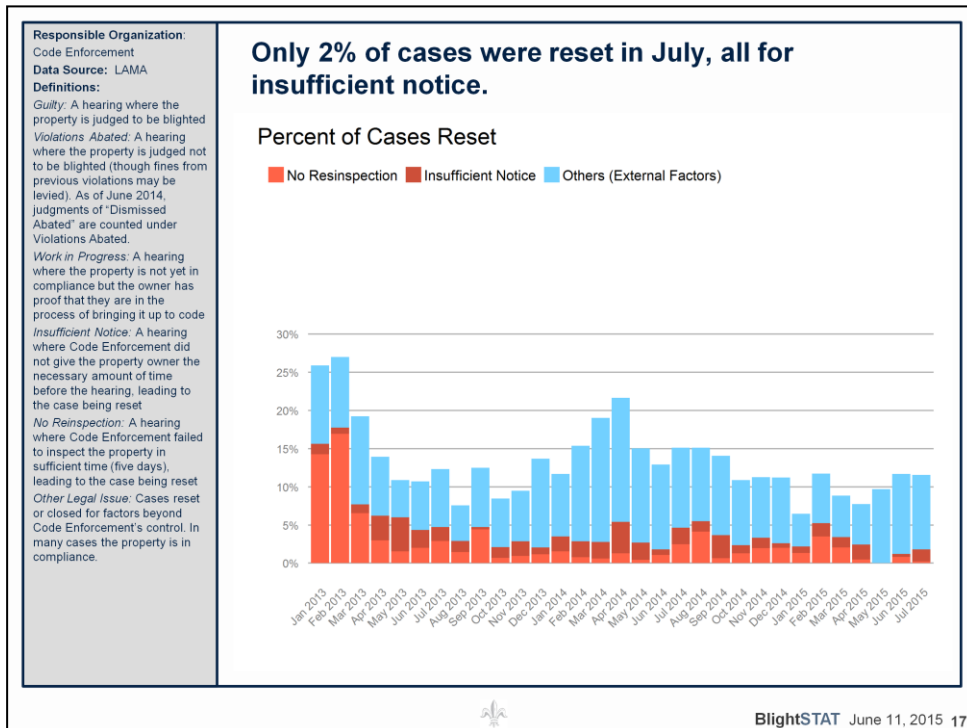
compliance.

The percentage of cases with guilty judgment remained at high levels.

Hearing Results

■ Guilty ■ Violations Abated ■ Work in Progress ■ Other Reset/Dismissed





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In an effort to further reduce/eliminate insufficient notice resets, Code Enforcement is sending hearing notice 20 days prior to the hearing instead of the 15 or 17 day thresholds used in the past.



Responsible Organization:
Code Enforcement

Data Source:
LAMA

Definitions:

In Compliance: A hearing where the property is judged not to be blighted (though fines from previous violations may be levied)

Approved Lien Waivers:

When a property is found guilty at a hearing, the City can place a lien on the property that the owner must pay. If the owner later brings the property up to code, they can file to have the lien removed.

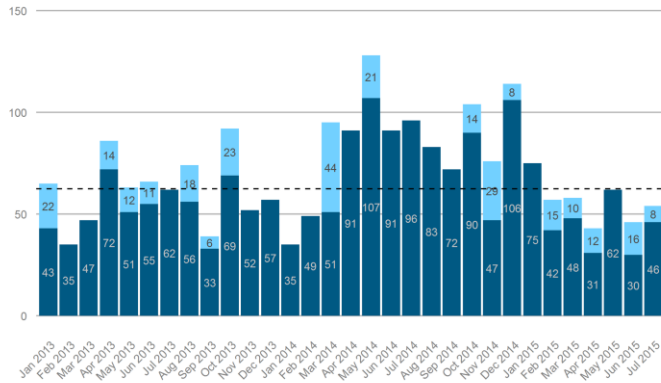
Note:

Properties with a Judgment of Dismissed Abated are not counted in this measure

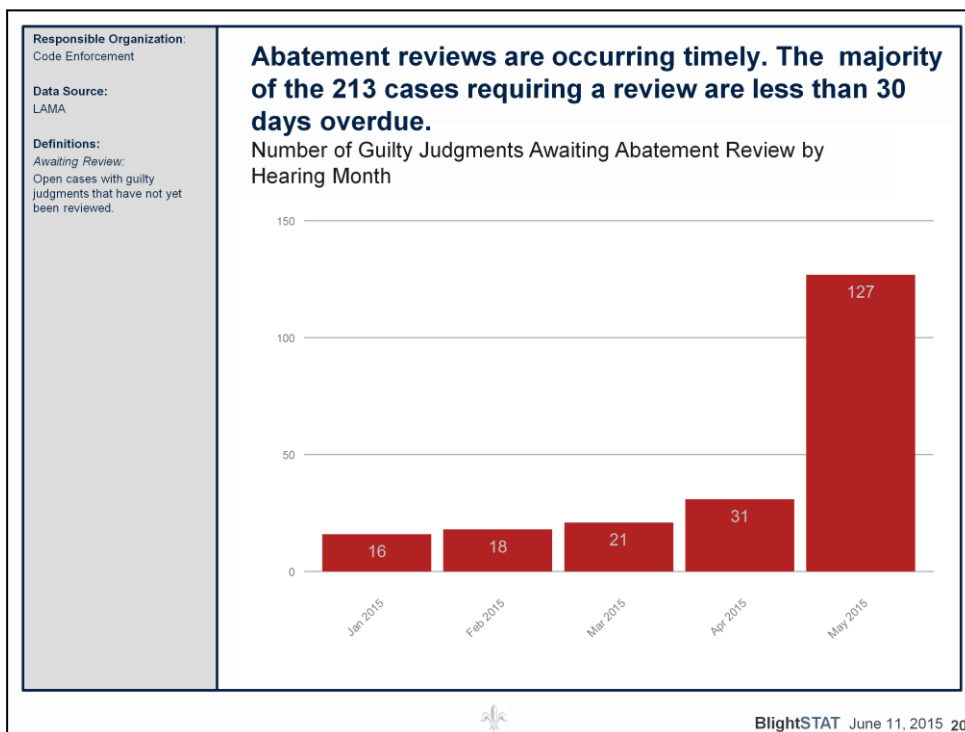
The number of properties abated by property owners remained below the monthly target in July.

Voluntary Abatement

■ Abated at Hearing ■ Approved Lien Waivers

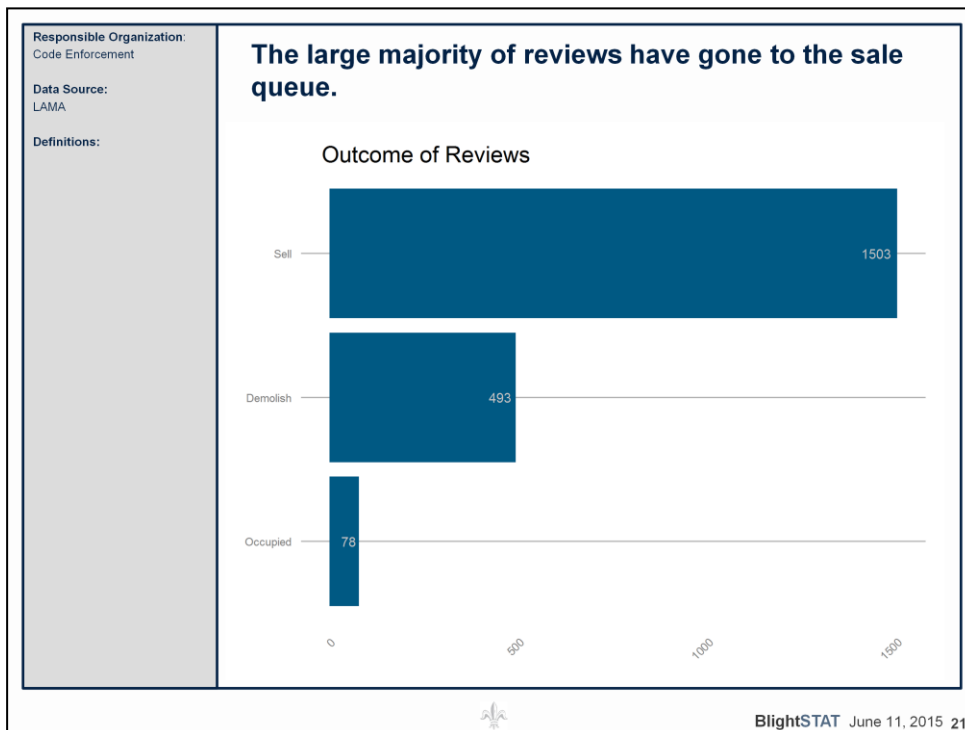


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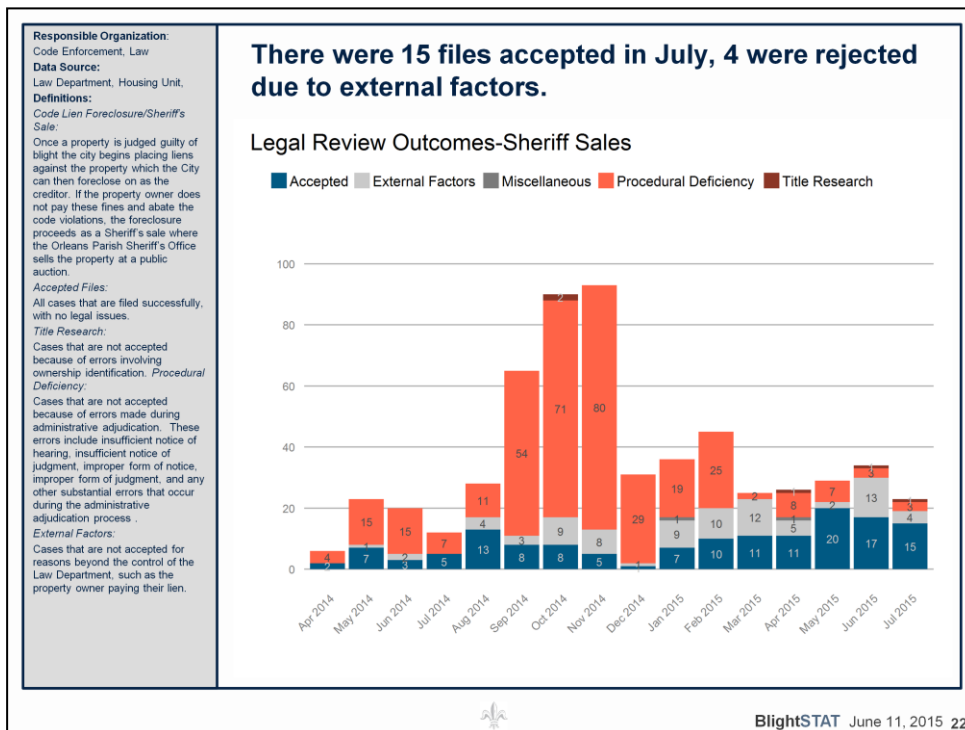


Note that this data represents reviews for cases heard by month. In other words, there were 127 cases heard in May that have not yet received a review as of press time. Cases for June are not shown because they need to await the legally required 30 days before recordation can occur.

Reviews have been completed for all January, February, March, and April cases, but Code Enforcement staff will receive additional training to ensure that LAMA (the data source) accurately represents those reviews that have already occurred.



Recommendations created during these reviews will not always result in a subsequent sale or demo. Property owners may abate violations, pay the fees, or departmental leadership may reject the recommendation. Further, some parcels marked as sell may not actually sell due to weak market forces. For example, a vacant lot in the Lower Ninth Ward is automatically recommended for sale (since it obviously doesn't need a demo), but Code Enforcement may choose not to invest money and resources to send it to sheriff's sale based upon low real estate demand.



The City of New Orleans is committed to improving the lien foreclosure pipeline. Eliminating the abatement decision backlog shifted the large number of cases in the backlog to legal review, the next part of the Code Enforcement process. In anticipation of this shift, Code Enforcement has increased the legal staff from two full-time attorneys and one paralegal to four full-time attorneys and two paralegals. In July, an additional attorney and paralegal also accepted positions, bringing the full-staffed Code Enforcement legal team to 5 full-time attorneys and three paralegals.

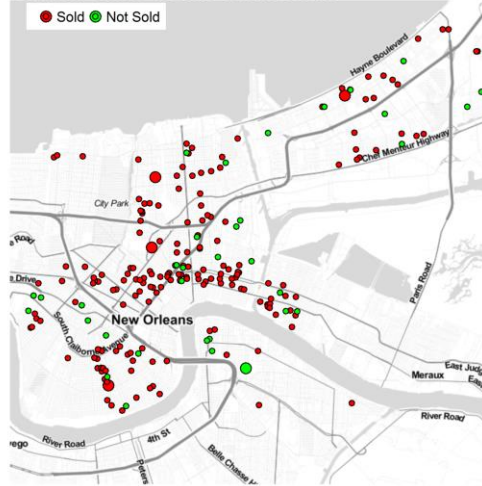
Code Enforcement is also working to sign a small pilot contract with an abstracting company for title research that should make the lien foreclosure pipeline (including sheriff's sales and demos on slide 24) move faster. The pilot may lead to a larger-scale RFP.

Responsible Organization:
Code Enforcement
Data Source:
Law Department, Housing Unit
Definitions:
Code Lien Foreclosure/Sheriff's Sale:

Once a property is judged guilty of blight the city begins placing liens against the property which the city can then foreclose on as the creditor, commonly called a code lien foreclosure. If the property owner does not pay these fines and abate the code violations, the foreclosure proceeds as a Sheriff's sale where the Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office sells the property at a public auction.

Five properties were brought to sale in July, four received bids and sold for an average price of over \$90,000.

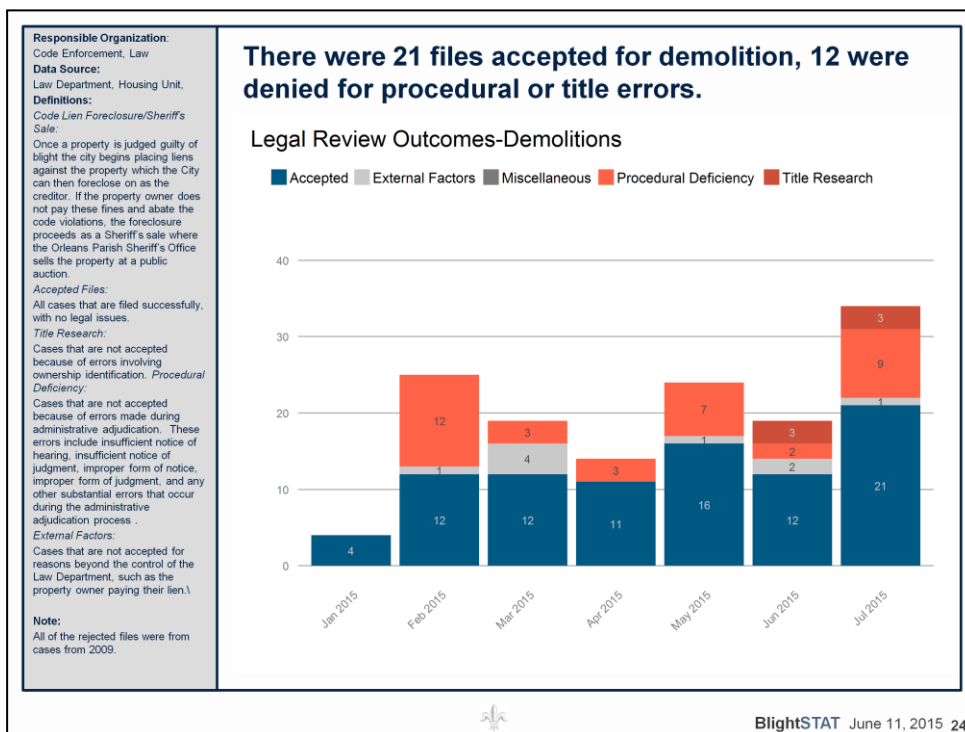
Sheriff Sale Results Since 2010



Enlarged points indicate sales that occurred in June.

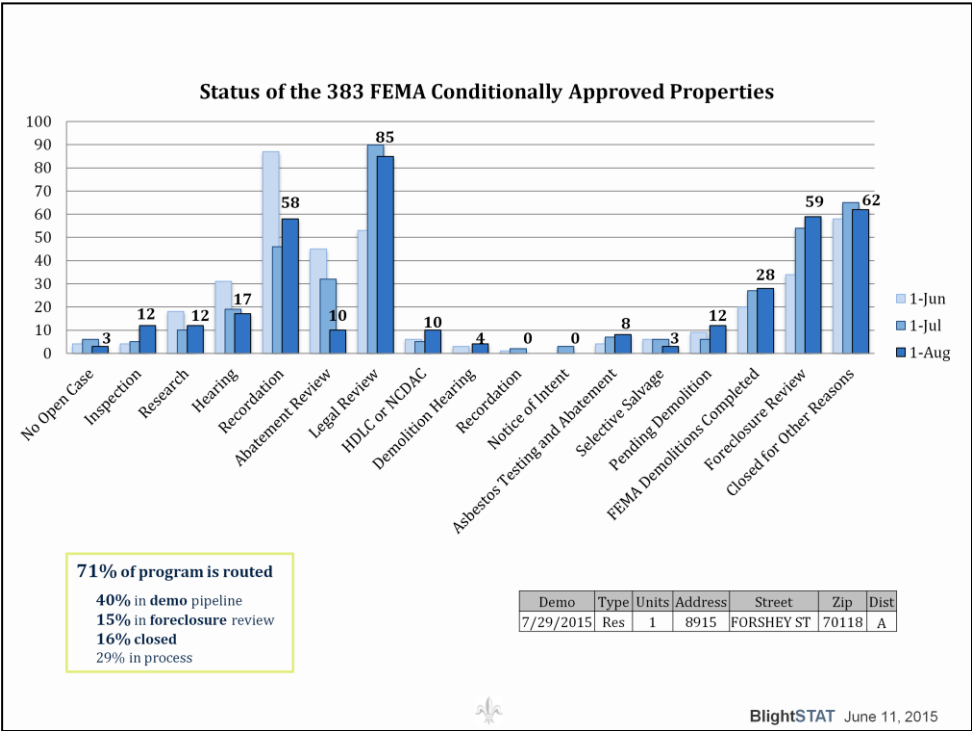
BlightSTAT June 11, 2015 23

Data on city collections associated with lien foreclosure sales was not available to include in this BlightSTAT, but it should return next month.



The City of New Orleans is committed to improving the lien foreclosure pipeline. Eliminating the abatement decision backlog shifted the large number of cases in the backlog to legal review, the next part of the Code Enforcement process. In anticipation of this shift, Code Enforcement has increased the legal staff from two full-time attorneys and one paralegal to four full-time attorneys and two paralegals. In July, an additional attorney and paralegal also accepted positions, bringing the full-staffed Code Enforcement legal team to 5 full-time attorneys and three paralegals.

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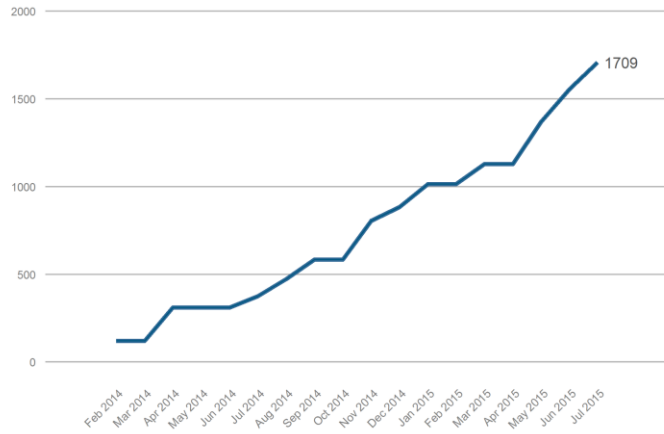
Responsible Organization:
Chief Administrative Office and
Code Enforcement

Data Source:
Chief Administrative Office

Definitions:
CNAP: Continuous Nuisance
Abatement Program. The City's
program to maintain lots after
they have received a guilty
judgment of high grass.

As of the end of July, 1,709 properties were receiving routine maintenance through CNAP.

Properties Receiving Routine Maintenance Through CNAP



BlightSTAT July 13, 2015

Responsible Organization:
Chief Administrative Office and
Code Enforcement

Data Source:
Chief Administrative Office

Definitions:

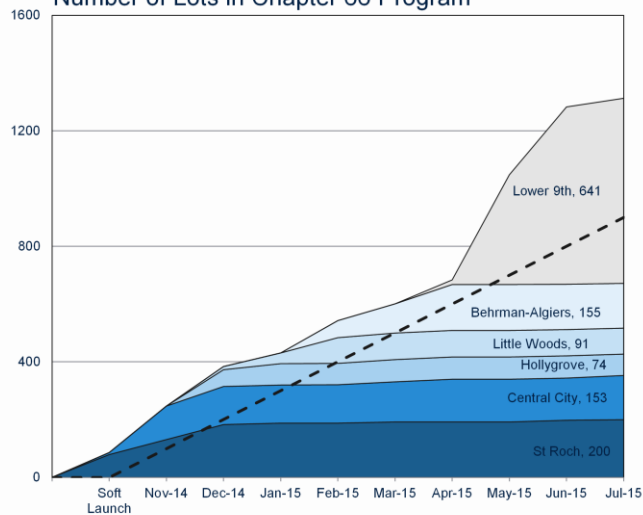
Chapter 66:

The lot-cutting program allows the City to address properties with overgrown vegetation, debris, or other hazardous conditions without taking property through full Code Enforcement hearings process.

CNAP: Continuous Nuisance Abatement Program. The City's program to maintain lots after they have received a guilty judgment of high grass.

The Chapter 66 Program continued to expand in the Lower 9 in July.

Number of Lots in Chapter 66 Program



BlightSTAT June 11, 2015

Responsible Organization:
Chief Administrative Office and
Code Enforcement

Data Source:
Chief Administrative Office

Definitions:

Chapter 66:

The lot-cutting program allows the City to address properties with overgrown vegetation, debris, or other hazardous conditions without taking property through full Code Enforcement hearings process.

Soft Launch:

The Chapter 66 pilot period from July through October. No targets were set for this period.

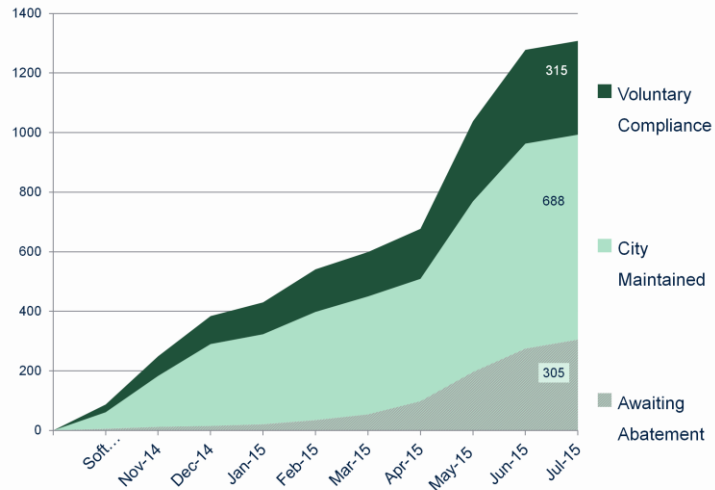
Routine Maintenance:

Properties that have gone through the intake process receive regular maintenance cuts every 30 days (after Initial Cut).

Voluntary Compliance: No violations were found on the property at the time of reinspection, or when maintenance crew arrives for Initial Cut. If violations have been abated, no services are performed. Properties brought into compliance after reinspection may be monitored for continued compliance.

As of July, 1,003 properties have either come into voluntary compliance or were maintained by the City.

Status of Lots in Chapter 66 Program
(By Month of Initial Inspection)



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<i>Awaiting Hearing</i>		
Address	Status as of 8/5/2015	Status as of 7/7/2015
9660 Lake Forest	Ownership change June 30, 2015. We will give the new owners 90 days to begin work before reinspection.	Hearing held on June 2, 2015 result was reset due to owner issue. Hearing set for July 13, 2015.
12001 1-10 Service Rd	Dismissed at hearing on 7/15/2015 due to ownership change which occurred on 7/13/2015	Hearing set for July 15, 2015.
5030 N. Claiborne Ave.	Owner consulted with Industrial Development Board to develop the property as a CVS in July 2015. We will continue to monitor.	Awaiting Research and in contact with the owner
4300 Sullen Place	Contacted LLT for maintenance and maintenance contractor was notified of condition 7/2/2015. Sending Inspector out to see if LLT has begun maintenance.	Contacted LLT for maintenance and maintenance contractor was notified of condition 7/2/2015
2800 Sullen Place/6401-6403 Gen Meyer	Awaiting Research	Awaiting Research
2646 Westbend Parkway	Awaiting research.	Awaiting research.

<i>Awaiting Abatement</i>		
Address	Status as of 8/5/2015	Status as of 7/7/2015
5000 N. Claiborne	Owner consulted with Industrial Development Board to develop the property as a CVS in July 2015. We will continue to monitor. Property received guilty judgment on 8/7/14	Property received guilty judgment on August 7, 2014.
6324 Chef Menteur	Property received guilty judgment 7/22/2015	Legal issues with sale due to tax sale purchaser suing the owner for the property. Tax sale purchaser needs to be added to any lien foreclosure case so we must restart. New hearing set for July 22, 2015.
3010 Sandra Place	Property received guilty judgment 7/28/2015	Hearing set for July 28, 2015.
6880 Parc Brittany Blvd.	Property received guilty judgment 7/13/2015	Hearing held on 6/2/2015. Result was a reset due to owner/legal issue. New hearing set for Jul7 13, 2015.
6001 Bullard	Meeting with development to discuss possible abatement	Passed legal review for sale and can be filed in June. CE will discuss abatement path and when it is prudent to put the property up for sale. CE will pursue recordation of daily fines if applicable.
4402 Reynes	Meeting with development to discuss possible abatement	Passed legal review for sale and can be filed in June. CE will discuss abatement path and when it is prudent to put the property up for sale. CE will pursue recordation of daily fines if applicable.
2616 S. Claiborne Ave	Property received guilty judgment 7/15/2015	Hearing set for July 15, 2015.



<i>Pending Litigation</i>		
Address	Status as of 8/5/2015	Status as of 7/7/2015
1532 Robert E. Lee	Owner is appealing the judgment.	Owner is appealing the judgment.
10112-16 Plainfield Dr./10214 Plainfield Dr.	Property received guilty judgment on 3/3/2015. Owner is appealing the judgment.	Property received guilty judgment on 3/3/2015. Owner is appealing the judgment.
5300 Franklin	Received guilty judgment on 2/4/2015. Owner is appealing judgment.	Received guilty judgment on 2/4/2015. Owner is appealing judgment.
5328 Franklin	Received guilty judgment on 2/4/2015. Owner is appealing judgment.	Received guilty judgment on 2/4/2015. Owner is appealing judgment.
6700 Plaza	Property received guilty judgment 12/17/14. Owner is appealing judgment.	Property received guilty judgment 12/17/14. Owner is appealing judgment.
5951 Milne	Property received guilty judgment on 12/17/14. Owner is appealing judgment.	Property received guilty judgment on 12/17/14. Owner is appealing judgment.
3 Dreux Ave.	Property received guilty judgment on 10/22/14 ; Owner is appealing judgment.	Property received guilty judgment on 10/22/14 ; Owner is appealing judgment.
38884 Dreux Ave.	Property received guilty judgment on 10/22/14; Owner is appealing judgment.	Property received guilty judgment on 10/22/14; Owner is appealing judgment.
5324 Franklin	Property received guilty judgment on 10/22/14 ; Owner is appealing judgment.	Property received guilty judgment on 10/22/14 ; Owner is appealing judgment.
5332 Franklin	Property received guilty judgment on 10/22/14 ; Owner is appealing judgment.	Property received guilty judgment on 10/22/14 ; Owner is appealing judgment.
5700 Read/6601 Plaza	Property received guilty judgment on 12/1/14. Owner is appealing the judgment.	Property received guilty judgment on 12/1/14. Owner is appealing the judgment.

<i>Abatement Strategy Reached</i>		
Address		Status as of 7/7/2015
10101 Lake Forest	Writ is filed for property to be given a sale date. Over half a million in daily fees.	Writ is filed for property to be given a sale date. Over half a million in daily fees.
2520 Louisiana	Daily Fines recorded. Writ filed for property to be sold.	Daily Fines recorded. Writ filed for property to be sold July 8.
2500 Louisiana/3403 Freret	Daily Fines recorded. Writ filed for property to be sold.	Daily Fines recorded. Writ filed for property to be sold July 8.
8500 Lake Forest	Daily Fines recorded. Writ filed for property to be sold.	Daily Fines recorded. Writ filed for property to be sold July 8.

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5951 Milne was demoed at the time of the BlightSTAT meeting.

REINVESTMENT



Responsible Organization:
New Orleans Redevelopment
Authority (NORA)

Data Source:
NORA

Definitions:

Lot Next Door:

The Lot Next Door Program provides an opportunity to owners of properties that share a common boundary with a former Road Home property to purchase that property

Auction:

NORA holds periodic auctions to sell properties in its inventory

Alternate Land Use:

The Alternate Land Use Program provides properties to groups who have ideas and plans outside of traditional development such as playgrounds, pocket parks, and community gardens

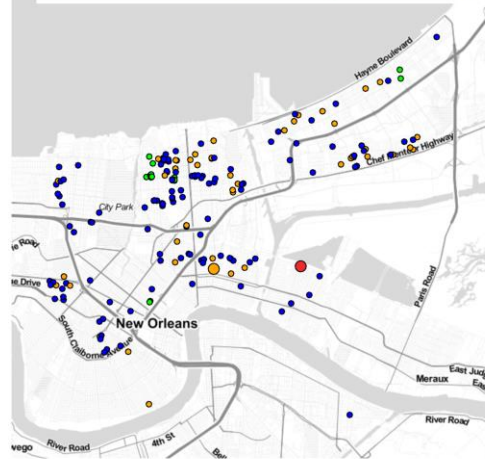
Development:

Properties returned to commerce through private development, which often includes packaging several lots with federal, state, and local subsidies.

NORA sold 184 properties in 2015.

NORA Sold Properties in 2015

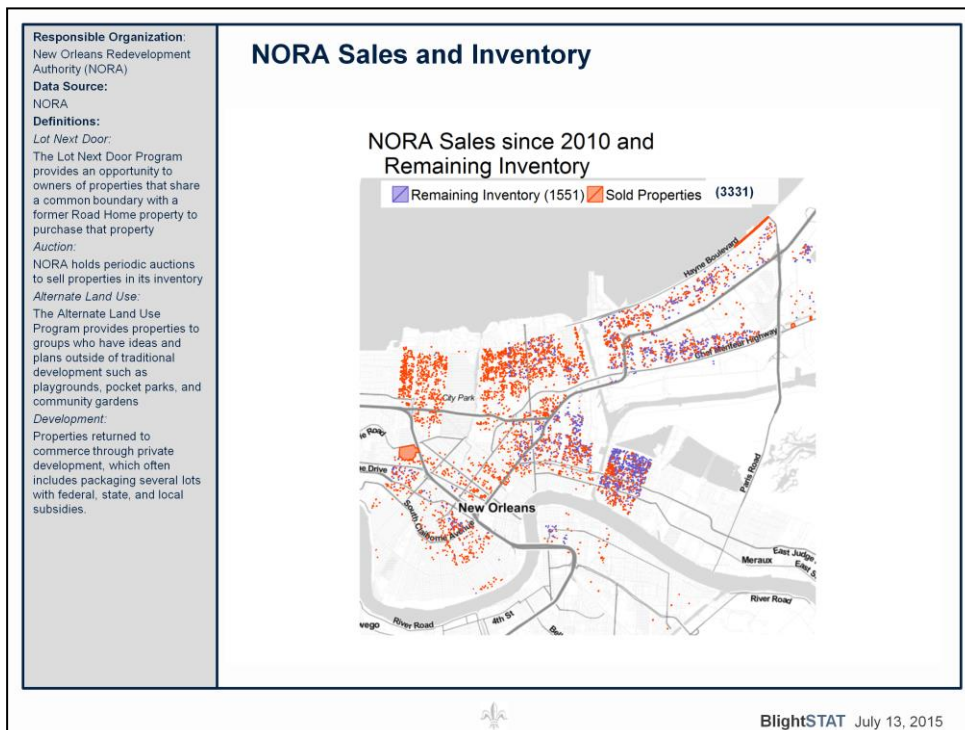
● Alternative Land Use (1) ● Auction (119) ● Development (18) ● Lot Next Door (48)



Enlarged points indicate sales that occurred in May.



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NORA is planning another auction in early November 2015, when approximately 60 properties will be auctioned using a new online format. Interested buyers can submit a submission of interest form prior to August 31st in order to get a property included in the upcoming sale.

Add properties within the NORA inventory are available on their website (www.noraworks.org) and on data.nola.gov.

Responsible Organization:

Office of Community
Development (OCD)

Data Source:

OCD

Definitions:

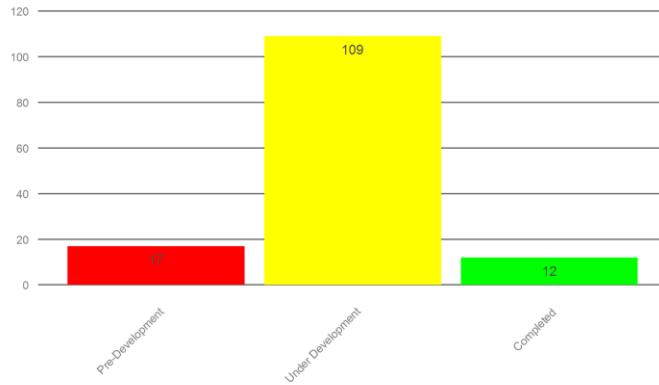
Rental Housing Program:

This program provides quality,
affordable rental housing for
low-income families

There were no new completions or units added to the under development queue in June.

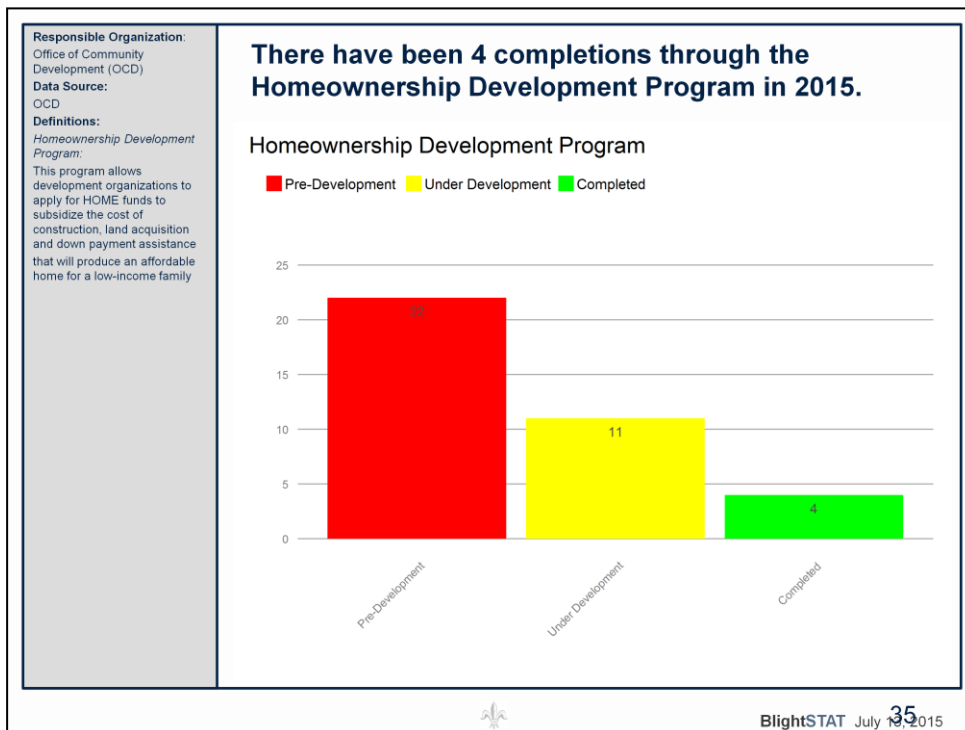
Rental Housing Program

■ Pre-Development ■ Under Development ■ Completed



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The Office of Community Development anticipate that half of those pre-development properties will be under development by 2016, and that they 11 currently under development will be completed by year's end.

Responsible Organization:

Office of Community
Development (OCD)

Data Source:

OCD

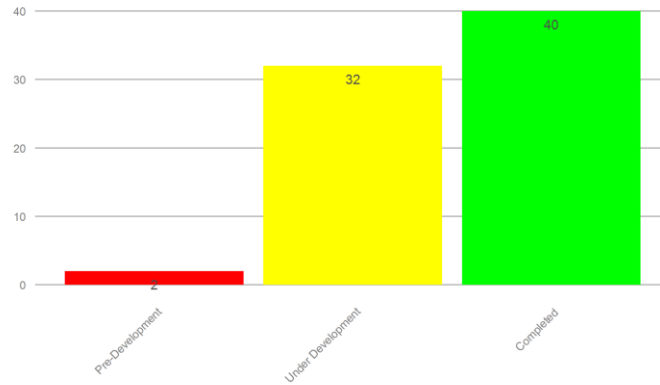
Definitions:

Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Program: This program provides financial assistance to low income homeowners to repair their residences, while bringing them up to code and reducing blight.

There have been 40 completions through the Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Program in 2015.

Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Program

■ Pre-Development ■ Under Development ■ Completed



BlightSTAT July 19, 2015