



CITY OF RUTLAND
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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
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Re: Public Safety Strategic Plan

This evening at a neighborhood meeting designed to address residents' concerns regarding crime and associated public safety issues, the City of Rutland will be announcing the creation of a local initiative to develop a comprehensive and holistic strategy to reduce both criminal activity and its impact on the people of Rutland. To that end, a task force made up of municipal officials will identify short, mid, and long-term objectives and goals designed to combat drug-related crimes and ultimately result in drastically improving the quality of life in our City neighborhoods.

The municipal task force will include the Mayor, Police Chief, Fire Marshal (Chief), Building Inspector, Health Officer, Rutland Redevelopment Authority Director, and City Attorney. While these officials have been already been working on a case-by-case basis to effectively address ongoing community concerns and problems, the responses have been reactive in nature and the tools are now in place to transition to a more proactive process. Both the Board of Aldermen and the Police Commission, as well as Rutland United Neighborhoods (RUN) will be integral stakeholders in this process and those bodies' roles will become more specifically defined as the course of action and strategic plan unfolds.

The City will be seeking input from the community over the coming months in order to affect changes to or strengthening of policies and municipal response to those issues that most affect its residents and neighborhoods. These changes may include, but are not limited to: adjustment of municipal staffing priorities to focus on City response to community concerns in the areas of public safety and quality of life; blighted property remediation planning and response; strengthening/adding language to current City ordinances with the goal of reducing undesirable activity in neighborhoods; advocating for changes to state law; identifying challenges with Corrections supervisees and build on our already strong relationship with DOC; engage the State's Attorney office to discuss the county prosecutor's potential role in the initiative; and increased public education on the use of "tip lines," with focus on associated timely response.

The City of Rutland, while recognizing the critical role that public safety plays in this effort, looks forward to engaging its residents, and the community at large, in finding ways to provide the best quality of life available.

Christopher C. Louras, Mayor
City of Rutland