

# Newburgh Sustainability Plan

## Priority #1: Community Upkeep/Housing



Issues	Community Assets	Interventions	Sustainability Committee Aim in Next 12 Months
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Street and sidewalks are in poor condition</li> <li>Garbage is left uncollected creating pest issues, foul odors, and limits walkable space</li> <li>Large number of abandoned homes are infested with rats, mice, cockroaches, etc., causing neighboring homes to be infested as well</li> <li>Lead paint poses a significant risk to community residents especially children.</li> <li>Mold and animal droppings are asthma triggers</li> <li>Rent is too high, but the rental quality is low</li> <li>Community upkeep and housing cause chronic stress</li> <li>Once buildings are rehabbed or renovated, rent is raised and folks who need the housing cannot afford it</li> <li>People fear that a report to code enforcement will lead to condemned building or retaliation from their landlord</li> </ul>	<p>Activities and Initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Codes Hearing with Senator Skoufis, and increased focus on code enforcement and landlord accountability</li> <li>City of Newburgh Vision Plan</li> <li>Empire State Poverty Reduction Initiative</li> <li>Neighborhood Development Taskforce</li> <li>Healthy Neighborhoods Project through OCDOH</li> <li>Newly passed New York State tenant protection laws</li> <li><a href="#">FYI Newburgh App</a> which residents can use to report community upkeep issues</li> <li>Housing Coalition chaired by Habitat for Humanity</li> </ul> <p>Organizations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Orange County Department of Social Services</li> <li>Habitat for Humanity</li> <li>Community Voices Heard</li> <li>Neighborhood Associations</li> <li>RECAP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fiscal Literacy Programs such as Fragile Economies Project and those offered through local banks and United Way</li> <li>Housing Coalition will create a Housing Resource guide to assist from homelessness to homeownership</li> <li>Host a quarterly Housing Forum to highlight all the housing resources available in the City of Newburgh</li> <li>Advocacy for more inclusionary zoning laws which will make new developments include a certain percentage of mixed income/ supportive housing</li> <li>Completed Housing Needs Assessment on Single Room Occupancies by RUPCO in conjunction with Cornell Students to guide housing development</li> <li>Comprehensive Housing Needs Assessment (IN PROCESS) by Leviticus Fund</li> </ul>	<p>We aim to increase opportunities for City of Newburgh residents to be a part of discussions about housing at the Housing Coalition, City Council Meetings, and with agencies who provide housing assistance. Additionally, we aim to use the feedback we received at listening session to advocate for inclusionary zoning to City Council. We will work with community partners, the Housing Coalition, as well as City of Newburgh public officials. Our short-term goals include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inviting more residents to participate in the Housing Coalition</li> <li>Participating, in conjunction with City residents, in more City Council Meetings</li> <li>Continue utilizing Healthy Neighborhood Project Community Health Workers to advocate for residents with code enforcement and landlords</li> <li>Presenting the results of the Housing needs assessments to City Council members with the Housing Coalition</li> <li>Co-host a housing information forum quarterly</li> <li>Developing a guide to assist for housing needs from homelessness to homeownership</li> </ul>

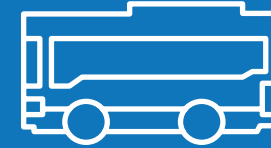
# Priority #2: Chronic Stress and Mental Health



Issues	Community Assets	Interventions	Sustainability Committee Aim in Next 12 Months
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of education about mental health issues in children</li> <li>Lack of services for children and adolescents with mental health issues, and long waiting lists for services</li> <li>Community violence, poverty, poor health outcomes, and unstable housing all contribute to chronic stress</li> <li>Concerns identified by community members around the possibility of the legalization of recreational marijuana, and the impact it can have on young people, as well as the message it may send around drug use in general</li> <li>Undocumented residents live in constant fear of their immigration status, and of ICE enforcement. It has a huge impact on the mental health of their children.</li> </ul>	<p>Activities and Initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>County wide Resilience Project with Cornell Regional Cooperative Extension – Orange County</li> <li>Welcome Orange, a “No Wrong Door” initiative for residents to receive warm handoffs to needed county services</li> <li>Hope Starts Here Hotline (soon to be 311)</li> <li>Mental Health Association Crisis Line</li> </ul> <p>Organizations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cornerstone, community health center</li> <li>Orange County Mental Health</li> <li>Mobile Mental Health</li> <li>280 Broadway, which includes social services and behavioral health services</li> <li><a href="#">OC DOH App</a> to access information about services, and programs offered by the department</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>County wide app that will make resources readily available</li> <li>Building relationship with the school district to innovate ways students are offered support, up to including mindfulness/meditation, yoga, and vision boarding as these have shown promise through research.</li> <li>Identify funding to provide mindfulness/mediation, yoga, and similar alternative modalities to the community at low or no cost</li> <li>Engage community members in discussions around legalization of marijuana and the impact of the war on drugs on communities like Newburgh</li> <li>Work with the County Wide Resilience Project to include the voices of Newburgh residents</li> <li>Purchase a mindfulness curriculum to be used by a community organization with youth in after school programs</li> </ul>	<p>We aim to increase access to mental health services and supports by making sure existing resources are publicized and shared with the community. Additionally, we aim to continue discussions with the school district on how best to build in supports for students on the verge of/ or in crisis. Finally, we are purchasing a mindfulness curriculum, which is a social and emotional learning program designed to enhance self &amp; social awareness and problem-solving skills, for adults &amp; children for the Newburgh Free Library. These programs, in additions to yoga &amp; meditation will be offered at no cost at the library.</p>



# Priority #3: Transportation



Issues	Community Assets	Interventions	Sustainability Committee Aim in Next 12 Months
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unreliable and unaffordable transportation</li> <li>• Families may be referred to specialists in Westchester but cannot get there</li> <li>• Affordable transportation that's available during the week is unavailable on weekends</li> <li>• Lack of transportation limits access to healthier food options as folks are stuck shopping at bodegas</li> <li>• Lack of transportation limits employment opportunities</li> <li>• Inconsistent and poorly timed public transportation means residents cannot rely on public transport</li> <li>• City is not walkable due to broken sidewalks, broken streetlights, and unpainted crossings</li> <li>• Pedestrian involved accidents</li> </ul>	<p>Activities and Initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a public transportation system that can be built on and improved to better serve the community</li> <li>• Busing is available to all elementary students, regardless of distance from school, and 90% of high school students so they can safely get to school</li> <li>• Newburgh Transportation Committee has been reconvened and will be utilized to address concerns and needs</li> <li>• A Complete Streets Policy, a guide to improve walkability and safety, was passed by City Council</li> </ul> <p>Organizations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Newburgh Transportation Advisory Committee</li> <li>• Transit Orange</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement the complete streets program to increase walkability and safety</li> <li>• Participate in Transportation Committee and mobilize community members to attend as well</li> <li>• Provide the survey the transportation committee developed to community members through distribution at Listening Sessions and other community events</li> <li>• Provide community members with the hotline to report issues with public transportation</li> <li>• Provide the Department of Public Works with paint and glass beads for crosswalk painting</li> <li>• Review and implement toolkits developed by other similar municipalities to improve the city</li> <li>• Identify additional funding to make changes</li> </ul>	<p>We aim to improve access to reliable public transportation, seek to increase alternative modalities such as community-based ride share programs. We also aim to train city staff on and appropriately implement the complete streets policy. We will increase walkability of the city by painting crosswalks and promoting active transportation. We will achieve this by utilizing the transportation advisory committee and lending our voices to the discussion, as well as mobilizing community members to attend meetings and engage in the process.</p>

