



# Moore Square Community Priorities

- In August 2012 Community Priorities Meeting was held in response to citizen concerns about Moore Square Area and the crime/quality of life issues.
- The meeting was held August 21st, 2012 at Marbles Museum
- There were 92 people in attendance for the meeting.
- Business, churches, non-profits, citizens, and news media.



## MOORE SQUARE BRAINSTORMING MEETING

Sponsored by the City of Raleigh  
Community Services Department, Parks  
and Recreation Department, and the  
Raleigh Police Department

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2012

9:30 TO 11:00 AM

MARBLES KIDS MUSEUM

201 E. HARGETT STREET  
"ZANZIBAR A" ROOM

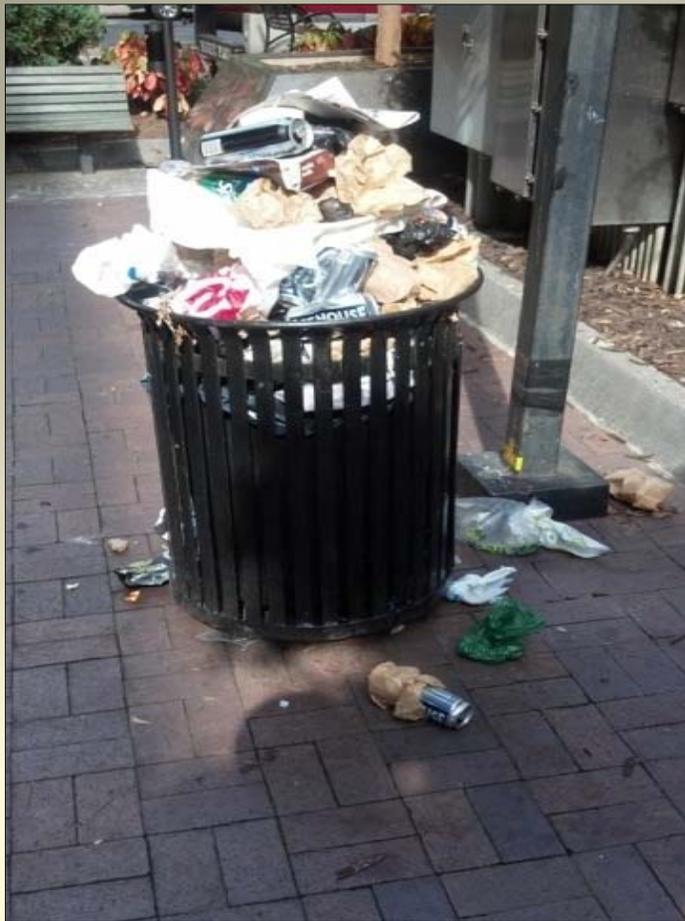
You are invited to participate in a brainstorming session to discuss solutions to the public safety and quality-of-life issues that face Moore Square stakeholders with representatives from the City of Raleigh Community Services Department, Parks and Recreation Department, and Raleigh Police Department.

If you have any questions,  
please contact Community-  
Oriented Government  
Coordinator Dana Youst at  
(919) 831-6688.

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Only 1½ hours of your time
- Discuss neighborhood priority safety concerns with representatives from City departments and Moore Square stakeholders

# Citizen Photos from 2012



# Citizen Photos from 2012



# Moore Square Priorities

- 1. Increased Police Presence.**
- 2. Improved Maintenance of Moore Square Park, Transit, and Historical Area.**
3. Development of an Alliance of businesses, churches, residents, government, and non-profits.
4. Revitalization of Moore Square Park.
5. Increased Diversity of Events Held in Moore Square.

# Moore Square Action Steps

- Priority Number One - Police Presence and Safety

# Moore Square Action Steps

- Maintenance Improvements to Moore Square Transit
  - Improvements to Moore Square Bus Terminal
  - R-Line bus stop location was changed
  - LED – Lightening installed
  - Speakers installed for music
  - Increase staff hours for cleaning
  - Updated the Stairs and Handrail
  - Implemented New Signage for terminal

# Moore Square Action Steps

- Maintenance Improvements to Moore Square Park
  - Maintenance improvements to Moore Square Park due to public health concerns voiced by citizens
  - City Staff with PRCR services the inside trash cans and litter in the park seven days a week
  - Solid Waste services the outside sidewalk trash cans seven days a week twice daily

# 2013 Photos



# Moore Square Action Steps

- Maintenance Improvements to Moore Square Park
  - Volunteer – Adopt-A-Park Agreements currently with:
    - Downtown Living Advocates
    - Moore Square Middle school
  - Citizen's expressed a desire for city staff to articulate and hold accountable the groups distributing food for clean up in the Moore Square Area surrounding the Park.

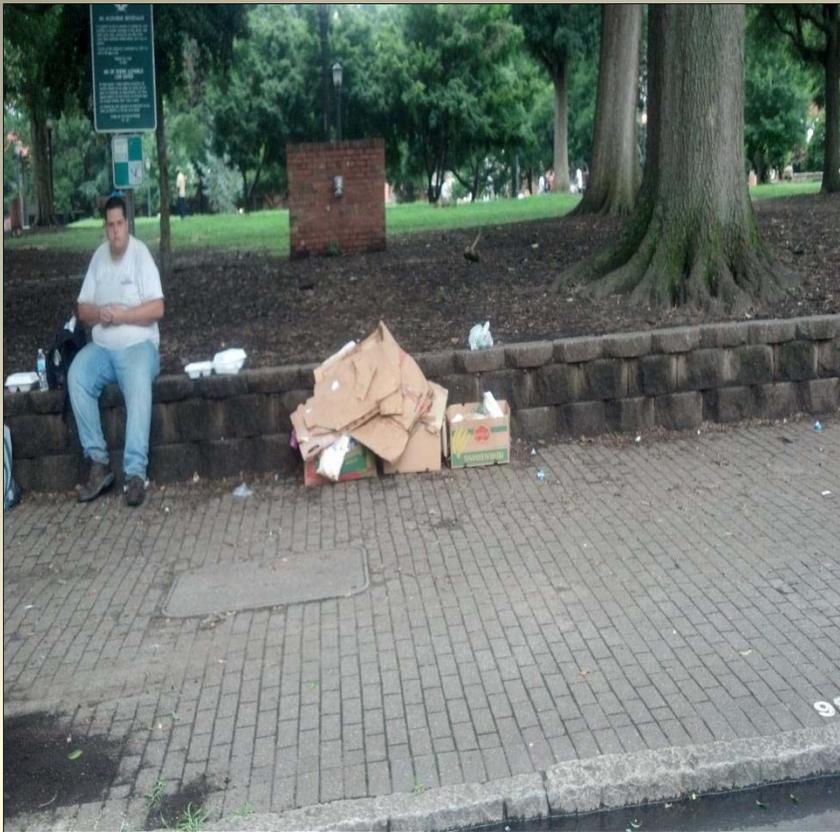
# 2013 Photos



# Partnerships / Alliances

- Partnership with Businesses, Non-profits, Faith Based Organizations, and Government to work together on the feedings taking place in Moore Square Area.
- In September 2012 city staff from the Raleigh Police Department, Raleigh, Parks, and Recreational Cultural Resource Department and Community Development began collaborating with Wake Area Mission Ministries
- One of purposes of this group is to identify other areas in the City of Raleigh where outposts (other locations) are identified to move the feedings from the Moore Square Area.

# 2013 Photos



# Partnerships / Alliances

City staff mapped the outposts that WAMM identified to assist them with information.

- RPD assist in locating residential camps throughout the county to then identify potential food distribution sites in that area.
- City staff has also worked with the Round table another group that is focusing on mental health and the future of an in-take center.

# 2013 Photos



# Partnerships / Alliances

- City staff members and WAMM members have been working together and educating others about WAMM's efforts to assist the less fortunate
- City staff has been educating members on the Park Ordinance and the permit process for over a year with the members who have attended WAMM.
- Information has been shared and the group has been informed of the citizen's complaints that the city has seen over the year that citizen's have addressed with the park and cleanliness after the feedings.

# Partnerships / Alliances

- Most organizations over the past years have feed along the sidewalk and not inside the park.
- July 11th 2013 city staff began educating the groups about the sidewalk ordinance due to complaints and safety concerns of patron having to walk in the streets to get by the feedings.

# Partnerships / Alliances

- City staff has been communicating how the park is rented out via the Downtown Raleigh Alliance and what is required for usage of the park over the past year.
- City staff has worked with due diligence to inform the groups feeding of the challenges citizens are expressing with the condition of the park after these feedings.
- Groups attending WAMM have also expressed concerns of sanitation of food being dropped off in the park and how the food is left unattended and the harm for citizens that may come into the area who are hungry.

# 2013 Photos



# City Ordinance Code 9-2022

## **Distribution of food prohibited.**

No individuals or group *shall* serve or distribute meals or food of any kind in or on any *City* park or greenway unless such distribution is pursuant to a permit issued by the Parks, Recreation and Greenway Director.

- In 1999 the City and County executed an agreement to establish a homeless shelter operated by the County on South Wilmington Street open twenty four hours a day seven days a week and would serve three meals a day.

# 2013 Photos



# August 2012 Meeting

92 people attended representing:

- Residents
- Businesses
- Non-profit service providers
- Parks & Recreation Department
- Community Services Department
- Police Department



Photo: Robert Willett, *News & Observer*

# Meeting Follow Up

Engagement has been ongoing since the 2012 meeting.











# Police Calls

## 2011-2013 Moore Square

- 3,445 Calls for Police Service

## 2011-2013 Nash Square

- 536 Calls for Police Service

# 2011-2013 Moore Square

## 162 Police Incident Reports

- Including:
  - 1 Murder
  - 6 Robberies
  - 30 Assaults
  - 46 Drug Violations

# 2011-2013 Nash Square

## 29 Police Incident Reports

- Including:
  - 0 Violent Crimes
  - 8 Drug Violations

# SeeClickFix

- 2013 Year-to-Date
- More than 200 SeeClickFix Complaints Handled by the Police Department

# Pre-Weekend Meeting

- Parks and Recreation Department
- Police Department
- Community Development Department
- Public Works

# Salvation Army



# Weekend Plan

## August 24 & 25

- Only 4 officers involved in interacting with groups
- One captain, one lieutenant, two sergeants
- No citations to be issued or arrests made

# Recommendations

- Re-engage the COG team
  - Widen the circle to include other agencies including Wake County
  - Reach out to all community groups and faith-based organizations to participate
  - Ask the team to develop specific action steps related to the Priorities they have already developed
  - Report back to City Council

# Recommendations

- In the interim, look for alternative sites to allow groups to provide food
  - Concentrate on sites near where those in need already congregate
  - Explore Wake County facilities that are already set up for services to the needy
  - Explore sites at churches / organizations that have facilities that can accommodate outside groups safely
  - Work with our existing partners to identify alternative sites

# Recommendations

- In the interim, do not change policy regarding Moore Square
  - No enforcement / arrests for any food distribution activity – same as current policy
  - Continue to educate food providers about restrictions in the park and sidewalks
  - Once alternative sites are identified, offer alternatives to groups who arrive to serve food
  - Ask food distribution operations to move only when a permitted activity is to be held in the park

# Recommendations

- Look upon this as an opportunity for the Raleigh community to come together and support each other
- We all have the same objective: Create an environment in our City where food can be distributed to the less fortunate in a safe and orderly way

