



**The Council of Neighborhood Associations of South Pinellas County
P.O. Box 13693
St. Petersburg, Florida 33733**

**CONA GOALS WORKPLAN
2010-2011**

March 17, 2010

The following statement of goals and objectives is based on the CONA Goals Workshop held on February 6, 2010, and subsequently approved by the CONA Board on March 17, 2010. This statement constitutes CONA's Workplan for the next 18 months and is intended to guide CONA's future activities. The Workplan will be formally reviewed by the CONA Executive Committee on a periodic basis to assess progress.

GOAL # 1: To improve the effectiveness and outreach of CONA to neighborhoods, the city, and the county.

***Objective #1.** Continue CONA Leadership Classes. (This program provides both vital information regarding our City's operations and needs, as well as a unique opportunity for neighborhood leaders from across the City to become acquainted and learn from one another. Relationships are formed that greatly facilitate successful joint action on matters of mutual concern at a later date.)*

***Objective#2.** Reestablish CONA Mentoring Committee and Program. This program promoted the sharing of successful ideas and projects among neighborhoods as well as assisting in neighborhood association development. Involve Membership Committee.*

- a. Mentoring and Membership Committees review networking ideas coming out of the Leadership Program "Effective Meetings" sessions and CONA "Best Management Practices," and develop a plan by April, 2010 for implementation.
- b. Membership Committee develop plan for retaining current CONA membership and increasing membership by 20% over the 2009 level by October 2010. Plan to be completed by April, 2010 and reviewed by Executive Committee and Board.
- c. CONA President holds periodic "Presidents Roundtables" (meetings with neighborhood association presidents) to discuss issues of mutual concern.
- d. Hold mentoring workshop for interested associations focused in particular on how to grow their membership, promote volunteerism, and provide engaging programs for their members by October 1, 2009.
- e. Invite neighborhood Crime Watch Programs to become Associate Members of CONA.

Objective #3. *Continue to partner with the City and County to further enhance the City and its neighborhoods.*

- a. CONA Executive Committee will meet periodically with the mayor and the Chair of the City Council to present CONA's positions on city issues and discuss matters of mutual concern.
- b. CONA City Budget Review Committee develops recommendations for CONA Executive Committee review and Board approval regarding proposed city budget cuts for FY 2011 by April, 2010.

Objective #4: *Further improve CONA's advocacy and public relations.*

- a. Establish volunteer Media Relations Coordinator to work with the CONA President.
- b. Develop a network of neighborhood representatives, in addition to the CONA President, to speak at city meetings and other appropriate venues on matters of concern.
- c. CONA Newsletter Committee develops recommendations for enhancing CONA's newsletter and web site by May 2010 to be reviewed by the Executive Committee.

Objective # 5: *Seek volunteer to compile and disseminate information regarding grants appropriate for neighborhoods.*

GOAL # 2: To work with the City and police to reduce the City's crime rate by 5% by March 2011.

Objective #1. *Track the City's crime rate on a quarterly basis.*

- a. The Public Safety Committee reports the crime rate and progress on CONA public safety concerns in CONA's newsletter quarterly. (Note: Crime rate information based on the Uniform Crime Report.)

Objective # 2. *CONA's Public Safety Committee develop specific recommendations for crime prevention and intervention, and report progress quarterly to the Board, including special attention to "broken window" approach; violent crime, juvenile crime, burglaries, vandalism, drugs, drug/nuisance houses, loitering, pursuit policy, camera technology, Crime Watch, CPTED, and police response to neighborhood concerns ("partnership approach"). Recommendations to be reviewed by the Executive Committee and approved by the Board.*

- a. Public Safety Committee further extend and strengthen neighborhood Crime Watch Programs, including additional training on crime reporting, and involvement of interested crime victims.

- b. CONA sponsor a workshop for interested neighborhood associations on organizing and strengthening crime watch programs by June, 2010.
- c. Representatives from the Public Safety Committee will seek to meet at least quarterly with the Chief of Police.

Objective #3. *Continue CONA's Court Watch Program.*

- a. Court Watch Committee will report activities at least quarterly.

GOAL #3: To improve city planning, including protection of neighborhood character, preservation of our historic resources, provision of affordable housing, public transportation, and economic development and job creation.

Objective #1: *Land Development & Historic Resources Committee develop a plan by May 2010 to be reviewed by the Executive Committee and approved by the Board, to address the following:*

- a. Implement CONA's previous approved recommendations regarding improving Land Development Regulations, a possible new stadium, and the Pier.
- b. Promotion of economic development, including creation of more business and jobs.
- c. Promotion of transportation and pedestrian and bicycle safety, including recommendations for a new downtown transportation hub.
- d. Formulate recommendations for placement of future cell towers throughout the City.
- e. Formulate recommendations for further strengthening protection of the city's historic resources, particularly the need to make the transfer of development rights process more user-friendly.
- f. Continue to seek landmarking of appropriate Downtown buildings and sites.
- g. Encourage landmarking of significant homes and other buildings throughout the neighborhoods represented by CONA. Ask each represented neighborhood to recommend a home for possible landmarking by May, 2010.
- h. Formulate recommendations for a comprehensive revision of the Sign Ordinance.

GOAL #4: To work with the City to develop neighborhood pride in part by assuring proper code enforcement, with special attention to upkeep of vacant and boarded up properties, foreclosures, better lighting, vegetation control, animal control, and stimulus of home sales.

Objective #1: *Especially follow-thru on neighborhood concerns, vacant property and lot issues, and snipe signs.*

- a. Code Enforcement Committee review the effectiveness of the Code Enforcement Sanctions Process (liens) and the Code Offender Amnesty Program and make report by June, 2010.

- b. Code Enforcement Committee meets quarterly with City code enforcement management to discuss matters of mutual concern.
- c. Code Enforcement Committee to formulate recommendations for foreclosed properties.

GOAL #5: To encourage conservation and protection of our city's fragile environment.

Objective #1. CONA Environmental Committee formulate a plan by July, 2010 to be reviewed by the Executive Committee and approved by the Board, for encouraging conservation and protection of our city's environment, including dissemination of information to neighborhoods on energy friendly projects and activities; promotion of anti-littering and litter pick-up programs (e.g. Adopt A Road) ("Blue Issues"); curbside recycling, LEED certification for whole neighborhoods and Section 8 housing, elimination of invasive vegetation; reduction of nitrogen/phosphate based fertilizing; offshore drilling; and promotion of water conservation.