From Information to Action: Lessons from NNIP

National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership
Better Data. Better Decisions. Better Communities.

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Texas Economic and Demographic Association
Annual Workshop
May 17, 2013

1

# National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership (NNIP)

- Collaborative effort since 1995
  - Urban Institute & local partners; now 37 cities
  - All partners build and operate neighborhood level information systems using local data
  - Success based on:
    - Trusted and engaged institutions
    - Relevant and high-quality data
    - Mission to support use of data for local action
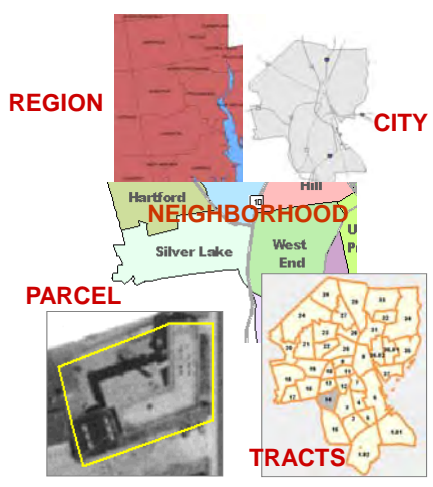
2

Trusted and Engaged Institutions

National Neighborhood Indicators Partners
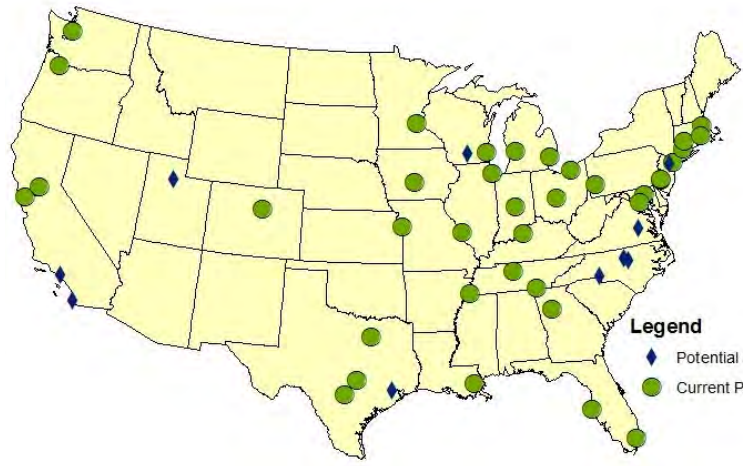
Legend
♦ Potential Partners
● Current Partners

Relevant and High-Quality Data

REGION
CITY
NEIGHBORHOOD
Hartford
Silver Lake
West End
Hill
PARCEL
TRACTS

Types of Data
- Education
- Child care
- Births, deaths
- TANF, Food Stamps
- Health
- Crime
- Property sales, prices
- Foreclosures

Mission: Data for Local Action

- "Democratize Information"
  - Facilitate the direct use of data by stakeholders

- Serve multiple audiences and purposes
  - But a central focus on strengthening and empowering low-income neighborhoods

- Use information to promote collaboration
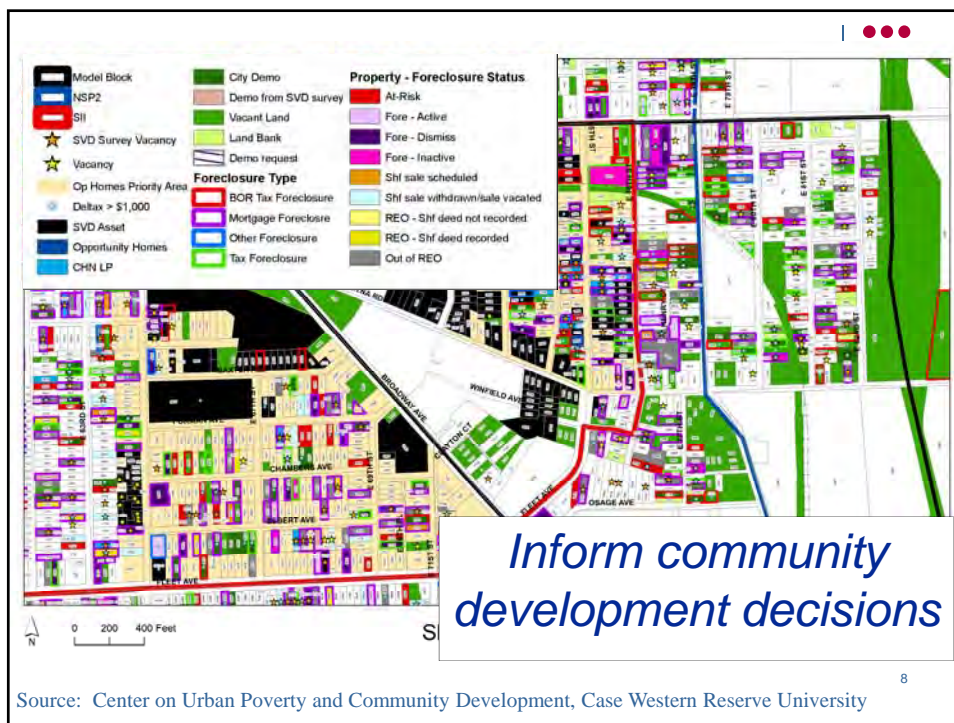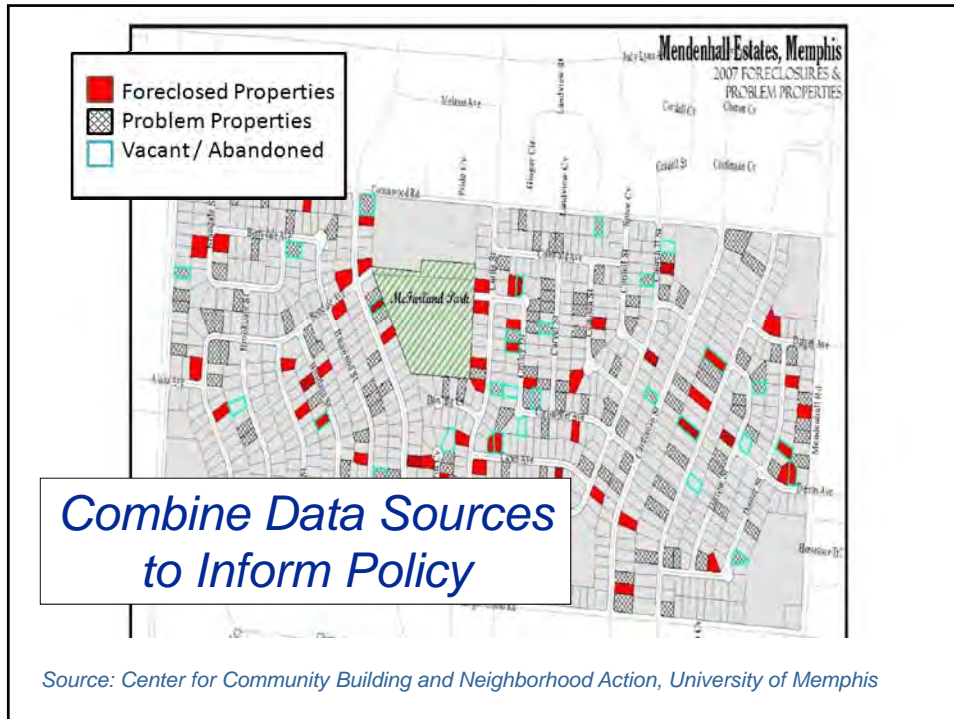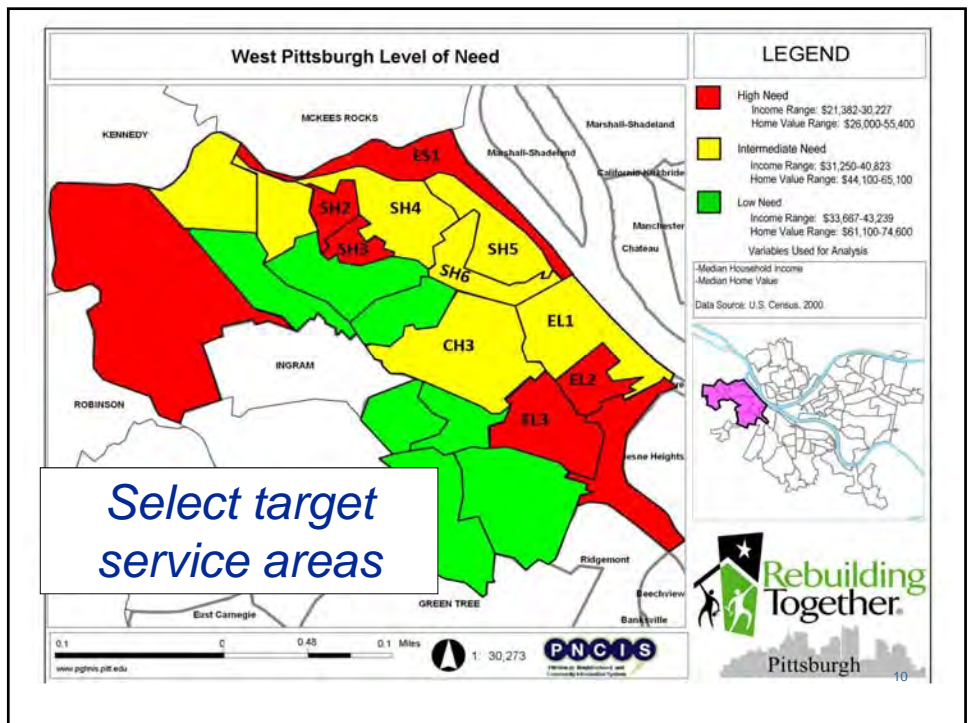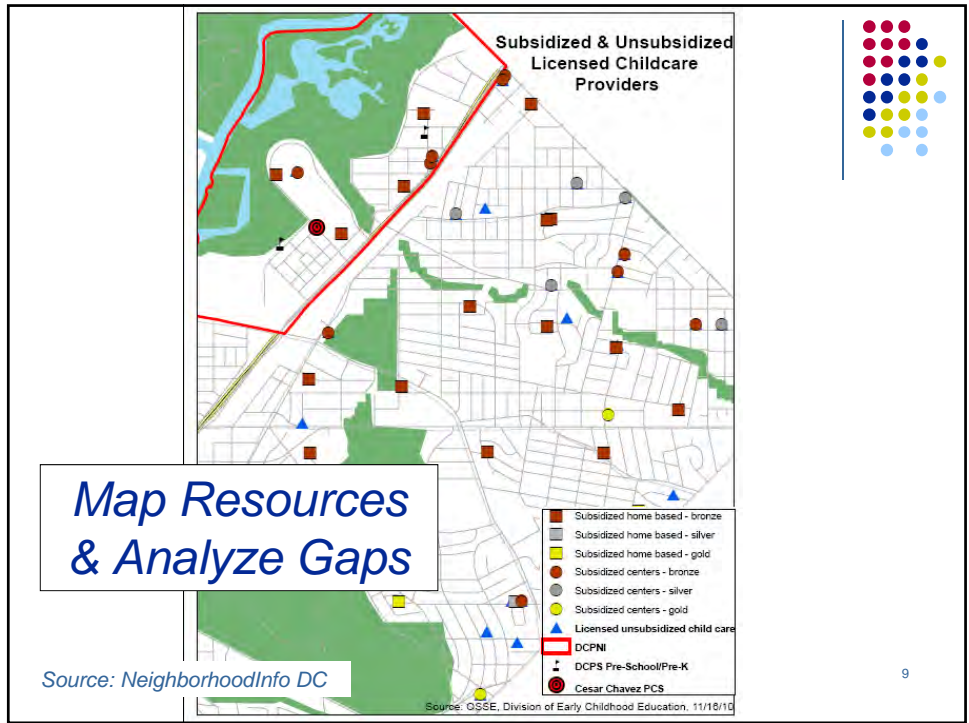 - Acts as a bridge among public agencies, nonprofits, businesses, resident groups

5

NNIP Partner Activities

- Assemble, transform and disseminate data

- Apply the data to achieve impact
  - Assess and prioritize community needs
  - Support federally-funded neighborhood initiatives
  - Develop comprehensive community indicator projects

- Use data to strengthen civic life and governance
  - Enhance data capacity of local stakeholders
  - Building a culture of data access and informed actions

6

Combine Data Sources to Inform Policy

Source: Center for Community Building and Neighborhood Action, University of Memphis

Inform community development decisions

Source: Center on Urban Poverty and Community Development, Case Western Reserve University

4

Map Resources & Analyze Gaps

Source: NeighborhoodInfo DC

Select target service areas

Creating Sustainable Places

VIBRANT · CONNECTED · GREEN

EXAMPLES OF SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS

ACTIONS	PLACES	OUTCOMES
Measure actions and activities promoted by Creating Sustainable Places	Measure improvements in centers and corridors based on CSP guiding principles	Measure regional change in triple-bottom-line categories

ACTIONS:
REINVESTMENT
- Sq. ft. of commercial space renovated
- Housing units constructed/renovated

TRANSPORTATION CHOICE
- Transit service improvements
- Miles of Complete Streets

HOUSING CHOICE
- Number of units constructed/renovated by type, target income

ENERGY EFFICIENCY
- Number of structures weatherized

PLACES:
REINVESTMENT
- Change in property values
- Population and housing unit density

TRANSPORTATION CHOICE
- Modal split in trips

HOUSING CHOICE
- Distribution of housing types
- Distribution of housing price points

ENERGY EFFICIENCY
- Residential energy use per unit or sq. ft.

OUTCOMES:
EQUITY (SOCIAL)
EQUITY AND AFFORDABILITY
- Concentrated poverty and race
- Index of discrimination
EDUCATION, ARTS AND COMM
- 3rd, 5th and 8th grade competen
- Degree of community connection participation
HEALTH AND SAFETY
- YPLL rate and distribution
- Obesity rates

ENVIRONMENT
NATURAL SYSTEMS
- Percent of population near parks trails
PLANNING & DESIGN
- Percent of region under sustainal code framework
- Percent of population growth accommodated by redevelopme infill
CLIMATE & ENERGY

Identify & Measure Program Outcomes

Source: Mid-America Regional Council

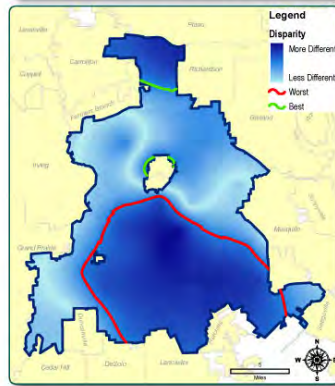The Institute for Urban Policy Research at The University of Texas at Dallas

UTD

ADDRESSING THE NORTH-SOUTH GAP IN DALLAS

12

Understanding the Problem

SAT Scores Persistently Lag Behind in Southern Dallas

Source: J. McDonald Williams Institute. 2006. "2006 Wholeness Index Summary Report." http://thewilliamsinstitute.com/Portals/10/Wholeness/2006_Wholeness/Wholeness_Index_2006.pdf

13

Collaborate on Action Steps

- Leadership from the Dallas Morning News Editorial Board
  - Dialogue around disparities made a part of the 2007 mayoral election
- Southern Dallas Task Force
  - Action Plans for 10 neighborhoods
- Continued engagement by Dallas Morning News – need to understand and assemble data
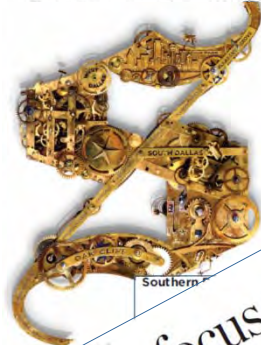
14

Collect More Data!
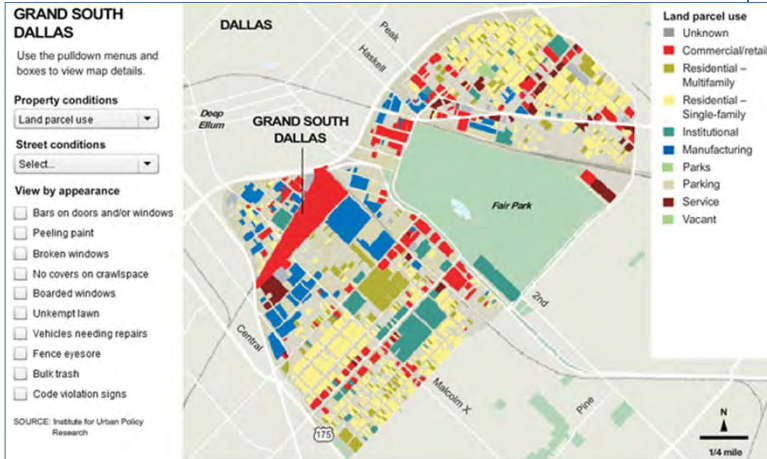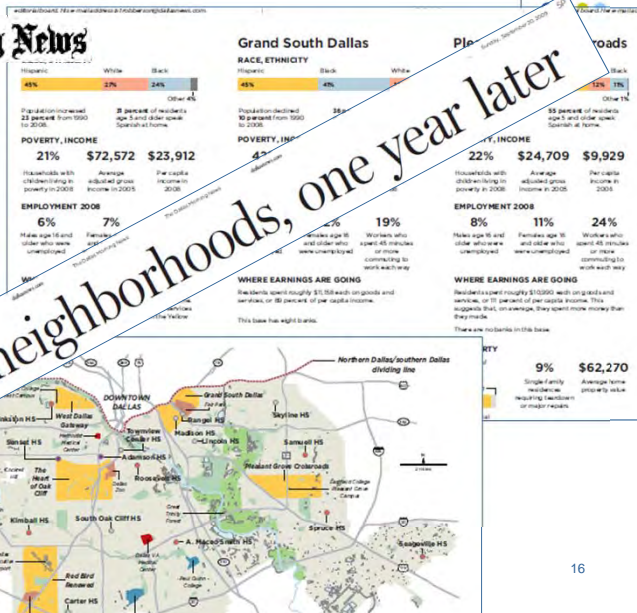

Image Source:
Dallas Morning News

15

Using Data to Focus Attention
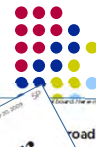
Source:
Dallas Morning News

16

Continued Impact

10 DROPS IN THE BUCKET

We have devoted this space to spotlighting some of the persistent problems that cause stress for southern Dallas residents.

Progress might seem slow, as some of the addresses have been on this map month after month, with no ready fix evident. But we've pledged to be relentless, to continue to beat the drum about egregious code violations and dangerous properties until we see improvement.

So, we continue to shine a bright light on these relatively small issues that become big headaches for neglected neighborhoods. Ramshackle properties that had been in decline for years now have our attention, as well as that of code inspectors and city officials.

Each month, we highlight opportunities for improvement in southern Dallas. Click on the pins below for the latest updates for these drops in the bucket.

- 10 Drops: Editorials and columns
- North-South Gap: A Tour of 'the Invisible City'

Need help in your neighborhood?
We're interested in the relatively small problems that cause big headaches in southern Dallas neighborhoods. Send your ideas for "drops in the bucket" to southerndallas@dallasnews.com

Key
- New
- Progress
- Stalled
- Worsening
- Completed
- Other

Source:
Dallas Morning News

17

Continued Impact

growSouth

- 10 Goals

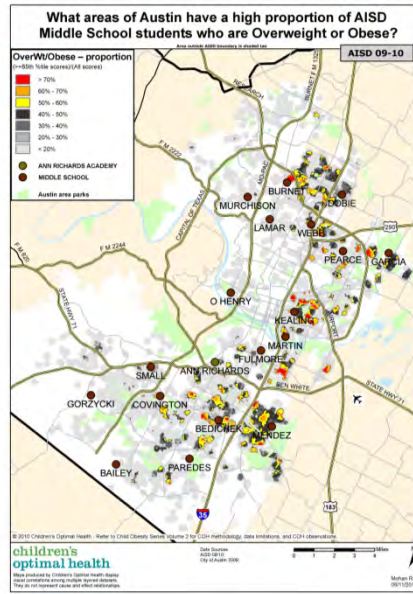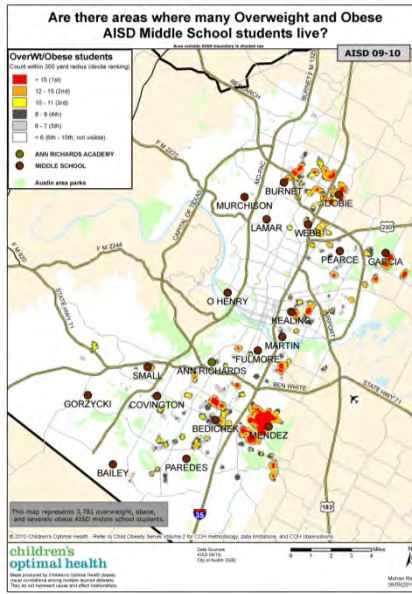- EPIC Dallas (Economic Partners Investing in Communities)
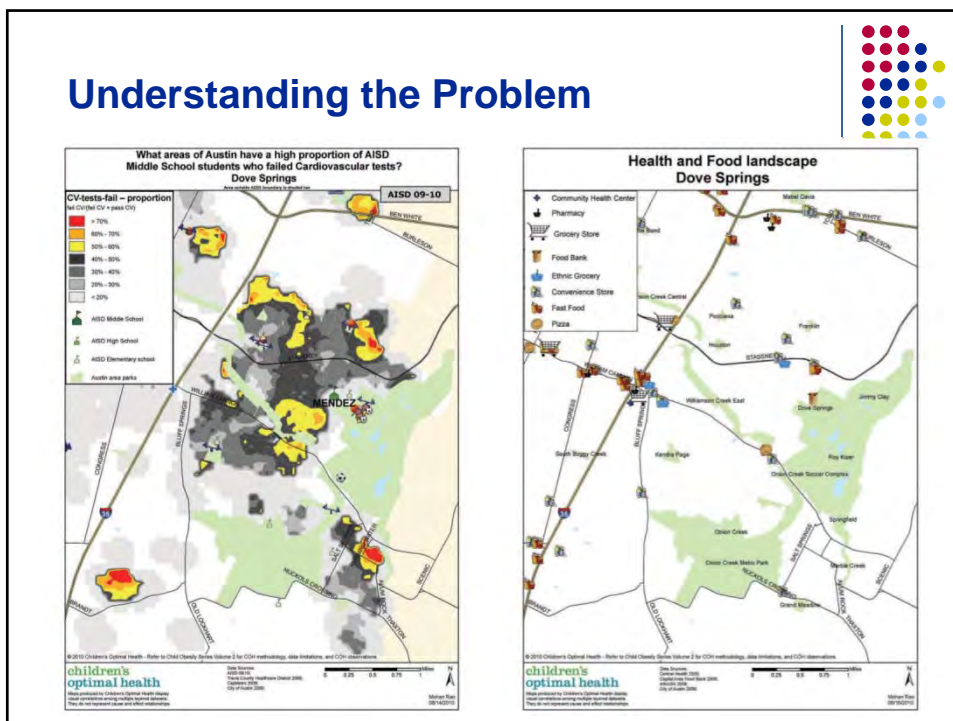
18

children's
optimal health

EXPLORING CHILD OBESITY IN AUSTIN

19

Understanding the Problem

10

Understanding the Problem



Operational & Policy Changes

- Targeted allocation of resources by City and County to neighborhoods of highest need
- City planning to include sidewalks and hike/bike trails in targeted neighborhoods
- AISD School Board included student health as a core value
  - Improved physical education and health curriculum in schools
- Improved awareness and advocacy around importance of school recess

22

NOWTECH
NOWDATA
NOWCAST

SUPPORTING
NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVES

23

Eastside Neighborhood
in San Antonio
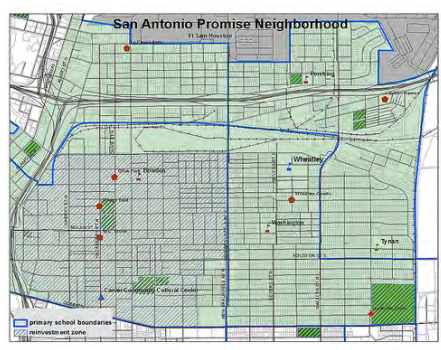
Sources: CI:NOW and
NOWCastSA

24

Lessons from NNIP

- Design indicators for action—not just to passively monitor trends.
- Develop indicators at the neighborhood level as well as the city or county as a whole.
- Use available indicators but recognize their inadequacies – don't discount local wisdom.

Source: Terry Bailey

25

Lessons from NNIP

- Place the numbers in the context of images and stories about the issues you care about.
- Data can be used to bring stakeholders together to address issues from multiple angles and leverage resources.
- Data can help diffuse political agendas.

Source: Terry Bailey

26

www.NeighborhoodIndicators.org

http://www.neighborhoodindicators.org/activities/issues

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29