



# Neighborhood Management Continuum

Garland's Strategy for Vital Neighborhoods involves all stakeholders – residents, City departments, business, service providers, and faith organizations – embracing their role in sustaining community vitality & growth. A continuum refers to a collection, sequence, or progression of values or elements varying by degrees. The action or inaction of every community stakeholder rests along the neighborhood management continuum. To fully understand and embrace the continuum, you must be aware of several important definitions and principles.

**Neighborhood Management** refers to the effort to nurture and sustain vital neighborhoods and influence others to cooperate in the effort is at the core of a great neighborhood.

**Neighborhood Management Capacity** is the skill and the degree to which neighbors are willing to act collectively on behalf of their neighborhood to achieve and preserve the desired neighborhood experience. This involves leadership, stewardship, engagement, and social capital investment.

**Social Capital** describes the pattern and intensity of relationships and networks among people and the shared values which arise from those connections. Greater interaction between people generates a greater sense of community spirit which equates to social capital wealth.

**Community** is made up of three distinct but related concepts: Commune+Unity+Common. A leader in a community must answer the fundamental question of how the members of a group commune together in such a way that it leads to unity in meeting common goals creating ongoing "common unity".

The concept of neighborhood management is more than organizing neighbors to act. As capacity (skills, knowledge, competencies) increase so goes the engagement level of groups and individuals and their capability to lead and manage the quality of their neighborhood experience.

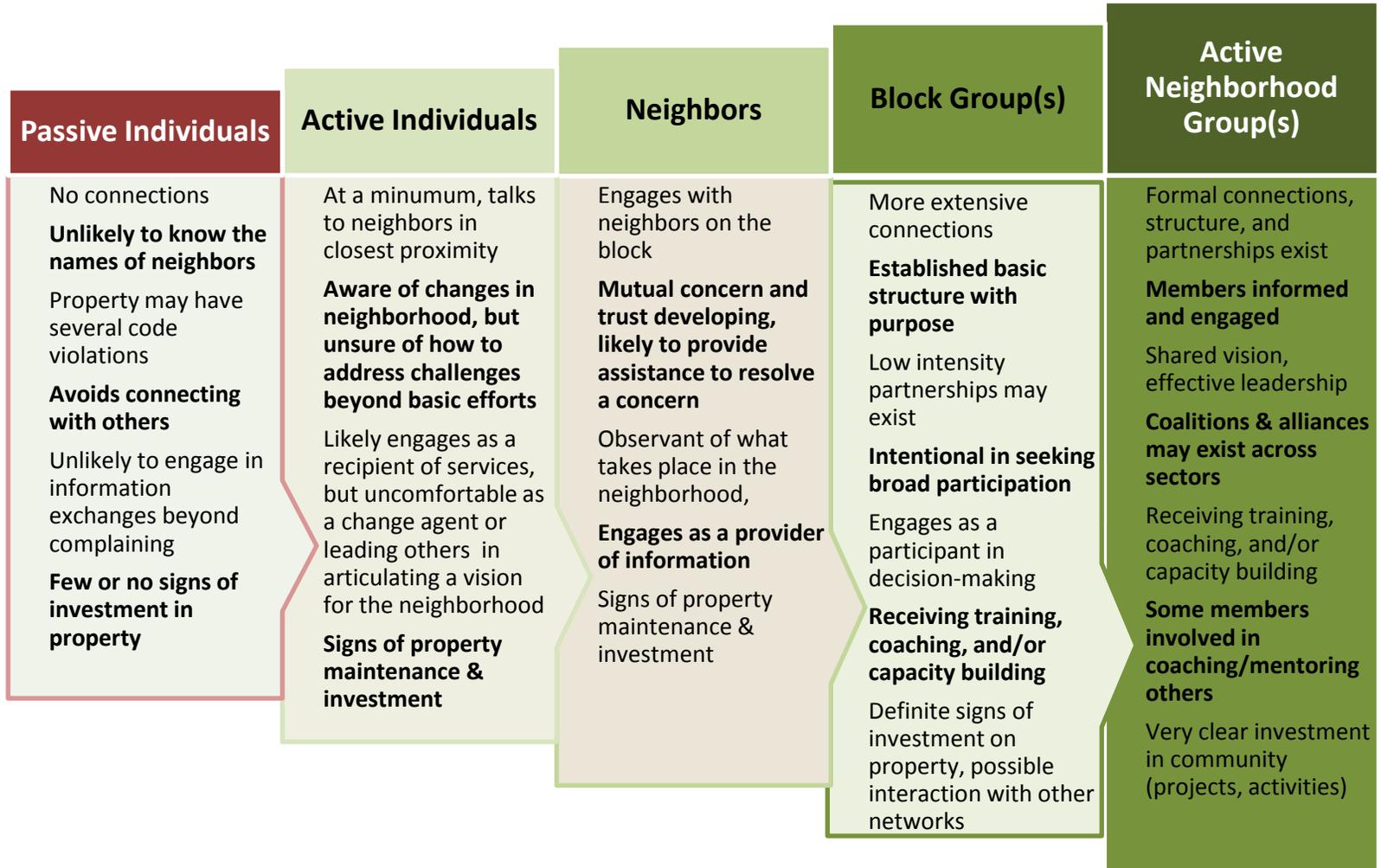
**Leadership** is influence. Effective leadership goes beyond people following you just because you have a position. It means people follow you because of what you represent, the relationships developed, and what you have accomplished.

**Community Engagement** is direct involvement of stakeholders in community affairs. Engaged stakeholders are more than recipients of services, but participate in decision-making and are accountable for fulfilling their role in accomplishing goals/making a difference in the community's health, safety, and welfare.

**Healthy Neighborhoods**, stakeholders feel able to address day-to-day issues that arise in all neighborhoods and are willing to work with others to address concerns to ensure continued growth and vitality.

**Unhealthy Neighborhoods**, stakeholders are overwhelmed by challenges many neighborhoods face and feel incapable of making a difference. They stop investing and give up.

Neighborhood Management Capacity Non-existent	Basic Neighborhood Management Capacity	Developing Neighborhood Management Capacity	Evolving Neighborhood Management Capacity	Fully Actualized Neighborhood Management Capacity
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<u>Engagement Level</u> Recipient of Services	<u>Engagement Level</u> Increased awareness, seeking information	<u>Engagement Level</u> Information Source Increased participation	<u>Engagement Level</u> Participates in action planning	<u>Engagement Level</u> Leads in action planning and goal setting
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