Thursday, March 29 Follow Up

Langren Alley neighbors:

Thank you to everyone who attended the on-site meeting last week! I thought it was a productive initial conversation and hope that it felt that way to you all. Below are notes, next steps and guidance on managing trash.

Major Issues/Themes Discussed:

- Overall concerns about trash storage, litter, building conditions conducive to rodents.
- Discussion of trash/compost/recycling pick-up times (city vs. private services, frequency)
- Stormwater management / water pooling
- Smoking and fire hazards

Action Items/Next Steps:

- To pursue better or shared trash storage options (Jes Foster, City Sanitation Division to identify options and report back to the group)
- *Until those options are identified, we ask that Langren Alley users follow the following waste storage guidelines:*
    1. All trash, recycling, and compost **must be stored in a container with a secure lid**. We recommend a roll-cart with a hinged lid, as detachable lids tend to fall off, become lost, and do not secure well. Local stores carry a variety of options (example). Please remove any open-style cans from the alley.
    2. All containers must be free of cracks/holes. If you are utilizing a recycling service that provides carts (ie - Curbside Management), contact them for a replacement container.
    3. All waste must fit within the containers so that the lid can be closed - no overflowing waste containers.
    4. All trash must be in tied bags before being placed in containers.
    5. Containers must identify the address they belong to (preferably with the name of the business).
    6. **Please email Jes Foster directly if you are utilizing City trash collection services. We collect once/week. As a pilot project, we will provide City trash carts and identify them with addresses if suitable. The City will only collect waste from City carts on Wednesdays. jesfoster@ashevillenc.gov.** Those needing more frequent service should contract with a private hauler.
    7. Businesses should have no more than 3 trash & 3 recycling containers in the alley (65 or 96 gallon carts). If you have service 1 x week and need more carts than that, then frequency of collection should be increased.
    8. Any establishment with an ABC license must have a contracted recycling collection service by state law.

- City street sweeping services available pending coordination to move trash bins
- City-funded Rivertop pressure washing service to be coordinated after litter clean-up; supplemental private services to be considered/coordinated (Charlie from Sovereign Remedies to lead)
- Concrete repair or repaving to be considered pending budget planning
- 17 N. Market has new ownership - to work on resolving the building's rat issues.
- Erika from The Windsor will look into NextDoor account (or another platform) for group communication and coordination
- Buncombe County Environmental Health to review conditions, any previously recorded complaints and consider public health hazards
- **"Team Langren" to participate in an organized clean-up to take place on April 18 from 11 AM - 1 PM as part of a larger downtown clean-up being organized by the Asheville Downtown Association and Asheville GreenWorks. More information is here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-downtown-clean-up-day-tickets-44484561521 . Participants should meet at Pritchard Park at 11 AM.**

General Information:

- Questions or recommendations regarding waste storage and collection can be directed to Jes Foster at jesfoster@ashevillenc.gov. The City Sanitation Division will continue to monitor the alley in order to make further recommendations or to ensure compliance.
- Future rodent complaints can be reported to Buncombe County Health & Human Services, Environmental Health Section by calling 828-250-5016 or by email at ehrequest@buncombecounty.org.
- Diana Starr - Executive Director of Poison Free Asheville. Can be reached at diana@wildthingsdwell.org or 828-767-0166 and may share information from time to time about pest control strategies and educational events.

A shared Google Doc with all of this information is here. A shared Google Sheet with contact information is here.

Once a NextDoor account or another type of bulletin is set up, all can post there to communicate with the group. In the meantime, please let me know anything else you'd like added to the shared Google Doc, or feel free to comment directly on the doc.

Let's plan to check-in on conditions during the April 18 clean-up.

Thank you,
Dana