

***** AGENDA *****
CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
CITY HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ROOM 300
801 PLUM STREET
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45202
VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM

March 17, 2023
9:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Swearing in of Daniella Beltran

MINUTES Consider the minutes of March 3, 2023. (page 2)

CONSENT ITEM – QUASI-JUDICIAL

Governed by Section 5 F.[G.] of the City Planning Commission Rules: <http://tinyurl.com/CPCprocedures>

ITEM 1 A report and recommendation on a proposed Development Plan and Final Plat at 5500 Madison Road in Madisonville. (Halt) (page 10)

CONSENT ITEM – LEGISLATIVE

ITEM 2 A report and recommendation on a proposed naming of unnamed steps between Vine Street and Ohio Avenue to “Fig Alley Steps” in Mt. Auburn. (Kellam) (page 30)

DISCUSSION ITEMS – LEGISLATIVE

ITEM 3 A report and recommendation on the *2023 Green Cincinnati Plan*. (Peppers) (page 36)

ITEM 4 A report and recommendation on proposed zone changes along and adjacent to the Lick Run Greenway Corridor located in South Fairmount. (Urbancsik) (page 192)

OTHER BUSINESS

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

ADJOURN

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

March 3, 2023

Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Cincinnati City Planning Commission for Friday, March 3, 2023 was held in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 801 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 and virtually on Zoom.

The manner of remote participation complied with all requirements of the Open Meetings Act. The meeting could be watched in real time on CitiCable or by livestreaming the meeting at www.cincinnati-oh.gov/media. Members of the public were invited to participate in-person or by registering online to receive the Zoom link. Public comments and questions to be shared with the City Planning Commission could be submitted to the Department of City Planning and Engagement in advance of the meeting.

Present: Mr. Byron Stallworth, Chair
Mr. Jacob Samad, Vice Chair
Mr. John Eby, Commissioner
Vice Mayor Ms. Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney, Commissioner
Ms. Anne Sesler, Commissioner
Assistant City Manager, Mr. William “Billy” Weber, Commissioner

Staff Present: Ms. Katherine Keough-Jurs, City Planning & Engagement, Director
Mr. Charles Martinez, Law, Legal Counsel
Mr. Alex Peppers, City Planning & Engagement, Deputy Director
Ms. Gabrielle Couch, City Planning & Engagement, City Planner
Ms. Maria Dienger, City Planning & Engagement, City Planner
Mr. Andrew Halt, City Planning & Engagement, City Planner
Ms. Stacey Hoffman, City Planning & Engagement, Senior City Planner
Ms. Caroline Kellam, City Planning & Engagement, Senior City Planner
Mr. Jesse Urbancsik, City Planning & Engagement, Senior City Planner
Ms. Ashlie Wilkson, City Planning & Engagement, Senior Administrative Specialist

Mr. Stallworth called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. and asked that everyone join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Commission Action:

Approved the minutes from the February 17, 2023 meeting.

Motion: Mr. Samad
Second: Mr. Eby
Ayes: Mr. Eby, Mr. Samad, Mr. Stallworth, Mr. Weber
Nays: None
Absent: Ms. Kearney
Abstained: Ms. Sesler

Consent Agenda – Quasi-Judicial

ITEM 1

A report and recommendation on a proposed new accessory surface parking lot at 830 Reedy Street in the Central Business District and within the boundary of Interim Development Control Overlay District No. 88, “Surface Parking in the Downtown Development District.” The Department of City Planning and Engagement staff recommended that the City Planning Commission:

- 1) **ADOPT** the Department of City Planning and Engagement staff findings as outlined on pages 1 – 4 of the staff report; and

- 2) **APPROVE** the permit application, as shown in Exhibit C attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference for a new accessory surface parking lot located at 830 Reedy Street in the Central Business District and within the boundary of Interim Development Control Overlay District No. 88, “Surface Parking in the Downtown Development District” based upon the site and landscape plans identified as version 3, dated 02/22/2023, as submitted with the permit.”

Commission Action:

Moved to approve the staff’s recommendations for Item 1 on the Quasi-Judicial Consent Agenda.

Motion: Mr. Samad
Second: Mr. Weber
Ayes: Mr. Eby, Mr. Samad, Ms. Sesler, Mr. Stallworth, Mr. Weber
Nays: None
Absent: Ms. Kearney

Mr. Stallworth made a request to move Item 2 from the Consent Agenda to the Discussion Agenda due to members of the public wishing to speak.

Motion: Ms. Sesler
Second: Mr. Weber
Ayes: Mr. Eby, Mr. Samad, Ms. Sesler, Mr. Stallworth, Mr. Weber
Nays: None
Absent: Ms. Kearney

Consent Agenda – Legislative

ITEM 3

A report and recommendation on a proposed closure of a portion of Settle Street between Erie Avenue and Roe Street in Madisonville. The Department of City Planning and Engagement staff recommended that the City Planning Commission:

APPROVE the proposed closure of a portion of Settle Street between Erie Avenue and Roe Street in Madisonville.

Commission Action:

Moved to approve the staff's recommendation for Item 3 on the Legislative Consent Agenda.

Motion:	Ms. Sesler
Second:	Mr. Weber
Ayes:	Mr. Eby, Mr. Samad, Ms. Sesler, Mr. Stallworth, Mr. Weber
Nays:	None
Absent:	Ms. Kearney

Discussion Agenda – Legislative

ITEM 2

Ms. Hoffman presented a report and recommendation on a proposed vacation and sale of portions of Burnet Avenue and Cumberland Street and City-owned property at 2454 Cumberland Street in Mt. Auburn. Department of City Planning and Engagement staff recommended that the City Planning Commission:

APPROVE the proposed vacation and sale of portions of Burnet Avenue and Cumberland Street and City-owned property at 2454 Cumberland Street in Mt. Auburn.

Speakers and Discussion:

Mr. Daniel Buchenroth, with Kingsley + Co. and member of the applicant team, explained some of the issues the applicant has had over the years around the site. Mr. Buchenroth addressed issues with illegal dumping, criminal activity, and speeding as the main issues the area has had and stated the proposed purchase and vacation of the subject properties was to increase safety. Mr. Weber asked if the applicant had redevelopment plans for the properties purchased and if so, what would happen to the tenants living there. Mr. Buchenroth confirmed there were no redevelopment plans, but just to pave the area for off-street parking for the tenants.

Mr. Steve Gibbs, President of the Mount Auburn Community Council, stated the subject area was known for recurring crime and illegal dumping. He said the intent of the sale was to eliminate crime at the subject location, and stated his support for the proposal. Ms. Sesler asked if Mr. Gibbs agreed with Mr. Buchenroth's statements regarding a crime issue and that the proposal would help alleviate the issue. Mr. Gibbs confirmed he agreed.

Mr. Scott Godby, resident at 344 Helen Street, stated he believed the proposal would give preferential treatment to developers and said he was opposed to the proposal. Mr. Stallworth asked

how long Mr. Godby lived in the City. Mr. Godby confirmed he had been a resident of the City for 17 years. Mr. Stallworth asked if Mr. Godby attended any of the community council meetings. Mr. Godby stated he had not been notified of the community council meetings.

Ms. Melissa Shaver, resident at 334 McGregor Avenue, stated she believed that privatizing the public land and gating public thoroughfares would not benefit the community. Ms. Shaver also stated that the issues of crime and illegal dumping were not unique to the subject area and were part of living in a city.

Ms. Candice Shelton, resident at 350 Helen Street, stated she was opposed to the proposal due to the reduction in parking due to hotel employees taking up street parking. Ms. Shelton stated she believed the development of the hotel had increased crime in the area and caused sanitation and parking issues. Ms. Sesler asked what solutions the City could offer if a business caused sanitation problems for surrounding residents. Mr. Weber answered and stated the City Administration could follow up with Health Department sanitation regulations to address the voiced concern.

Mr. Mark O'Brien, resident at 344 Helen Street, reiterated earlier statements from Ms. Shelton regarding the decrease in parking availability and stated he opposed the proposal. Mr. O'Brien stated parking became an issue for the area due to the hotel and apartment developments in the subject area. Mr. Weber asked Mr. O'Brien about the crime raised in the area. Mr. O'Brien confirmed the issue of crime in the subject area and stated that he believed closing off and gating the street would not be a solution to the residents within the community.

Mr. Josh Derry, General Manager of the Comfort Suites hotel, addressed statements regarding the cleanliness and aesthetic of the hotel and stated the property was regularly maintained. Mr. Derry confirmed the hotel property was compliant with the Health Department regulations and had passed all health inspections. Mr. Derry also stated he had received guest complaints regarding safety and said the proposal was an effort to make the area a safer place. Mr. Stallworth asked about employee parking. Mr. Derry confirmed the employees park on the property and stated they had employees that used public transportation.

Mr. Joe Philpot, resident at 330 Helen Street, stated he supported the proposal and said the area had suffered from crime, illegal dumping, and lack of parking prior to the hotel development.

Ms. Carol Gibbs, Mount Auburn Community Development Corporation representative, suggested a community meeting with the applicant and residents to address the voiced concerns. Ms. Gibbs addressed Mount Auburn Community Development Corporation's communication process and stated there were over 300 people on a mailing list that receive notices of meetings and agendas. She also stated the use of social media to announce events each month. Ms. Gibbs stated she believed the hotel would help eliminate the amount of crime but agreed that employees need to park on the hotel property and that the sanitation issue should be further inspected.

Mr. Clinton McIntosh, Senior Development Officer for the Department of Community and Economic Development, discussed the application process and stated his work with the applicant on the request for vacation and sale. Mr. Samad asked if there were other opportunities to address the speeding and safety concerns without the vacation and sale as submitted by the applicant. Mr. McIntosh stated he believed the vacation and sale of the property was the easiest solution but confirmed he thought the proposal was not the only solution. Mr. Stallworth asked if there was an essence of time that would trigger a financial loss by holding the proposal as submitted by the

applicant. Mr. McIntosh stated he could not answer Mr. Stallworth's question, which was more appropriate for the applicant. Mr. Stallworth stated he believed more time was necessary for community engagement between the residents and the applicant. Mr. Weber stated he agreed with the need for more time for community engagement between the applicant and residents as well as City Administration for due diligence on some of the voiced concerns raised. Ms. Sesler stated she also agreed.

Ms. Kimberly Watson, representing the resident at 2341 Reading Road, stated she was opposed to the proposal as submitted by the applicant and reiterated earlier statements regarding parking, traffic, crime, and sanitation.

Mr. Stallworth asked Mr. Buchenroth to address some of the voiced concerns. Mr. Buchenroth addressed the sanitation issues and reiterated Mr. Derry's statements regarding compliance with the Health Department. He also addressed the concerns of employees parking on the residential street and stated there were approximately 3-4 in-office employees that park on Reading Road during business hours. Mr. Buchenroth explained their experience with theft of construction material and stated they had had discussions with the Mount Auburn Community Development Corporation for 3 years regarding the street purchase. Mr. Samad asked Mr. Buchenroth the question regarding other opportunities to address the speeding and safety concerns without the proposal as submitted. Mr. Buchenroth stated alternative solutions were taken into consideration but would not provide an overall improvement to the area. Mr. Eby asked why vacation and sale needed to include the portion of Burnet Avenue. Mr. Buchenroth stated the purchase of that portion of Burnet Avenue would help with the speeding and traffic concern where illegal dumping occurred.

Commission Action:

Moved to hold Item 2 on the Legislative Discussion Agenda to allow for more time for community engagement between the applicant and community residents.

- Motion: Mr. Samad
- Second: Mr. Weber
- Ayes: Mr. Eby, Mr. Samad, Ms. Sesler, Mr. Stallworth, Mr. Weber
- Nays: None
- Absent: Ms. Kearney

ITEM 4

Mr. Urbancsik presented a report and recommendation on the proposed *Mount Airy Plan: Our Future* as the Mount Airy neighborhood's guiding comprehensive plan document. The Department of City Planning and Engagement staff recommended that the City Planning Commission:

APPROVE the proposed *Mount Airy Plan: Our Future* as the Mount Airy neighborhood's guiding comprehensive plan document.

Ms. Kearney joined the meeting at 10:23 a.m.

Speakers and Discussion:

Ms. Belle Walsh, member of the Mount Airy Plan Steering Committee, thanked the Department of City Planning and Engagement staff involved in the process to develop the Plan and explained the challenges involved during the community engagement process.

Ms. Casandre Walsh, member of the Mount Airy Plan Steering Committee, thanked the City Planning Commission and the Department of City Planning and Engagement staff for the support provided during the development of the plan. Ms. Walsh explained the efforts involved in community engagement. Mr. Weber asked Ms. Walsh for her opinion of the top priority of the Plan. Ms. Walsh stated she believed the business district was her choice as a top priority to drive people to the community.

Mr. Mark Menkhaus, member of the Mount Airy Plan Steering Committee, reiterated earlier statements of appreciation for the Department of City Planning and Engagement and other City department staff involved in the development process of the plan. Mr. Menkhaus provided speeding statistics of the neighborhood and stated the Plan would help them initiate solutions to address pedestrian safety. Ms. Kearney thanked Mr. Menkhaus on his focus for safety and for working on the proposal.

Ms. Adelyn Hall, representing the Community Learning Center Institute, thanked everyone involved on the Plan and addressed Mr. Weber’s question regarding priority focus, stating traffic safety and crime focus would help make the Plan successful. Ms. Kearney asked Ms. Hall to explain the Community Learning Center Institute’s work. Ms. Hall explained the Community Learning Center Institute’s mission statement and services provided by the institute.

Commission Action:

Moved to approve the staff’s recommendation for Item 4 on the Legislative Discussion Agenda.

- Motion: Ms. Kearney
- Second: Mr. Weber
- Ayes: Mr. Eby, Ms. Kearney, Mr. Samad, Ms. Sesler, Mr. Stallworth, Mr. Weber
- Nays: None

Other Business

Ms. Keough-Jurs addressed the Commission regarding the final amendments to the City Planning Commission Rules and opened the floor for questions for Mr. Martinez to address. Vice Mayor Kearney asked about a concern that somebody had brought up to her regarding if Community Council’s had standing in quasi-judicial items. Mr. Martinez clarified that an organization, such as a community council, can participate as a directly affected person under the proposed rules, provided that a constituent that it represents, or a member of the organization is directly affected by an application.

Commission Action:

Moved to approve the recommended final amendments to the City Planning Commission Rules.

- Motion: Mr. Samad
- Second: Mr. Weber

Ayes: Mr. Eby, Ms. Kearney, Mr. Samad, Ms. Sesler, Mr. Stallworth, Mr. Weber
Nays: None

Director's Report

Ms. Keough-Jurs thanked the Commission for their time and congratulated Mount Airy for the approval of their neighborhood plan. Ms. Keough-Jurs thanked the department staff for their work on the Connected Communities engagement meetings as well as staff from other departments for their assistance. Ms. Keough-Jurs reminded the Commission of the upcoming David J. Allor Planning and Zoning Workshop held at the College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning (DAAP) at the University of Cincinnati on March 10, 2023 and the Neighborhood Summit held at the Cintas Center on March 11, 2023.

The meeting adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

March 3, 2023

The minutes for the March 3, 2023 Regular Meeting are approved as distributed.

Katherine Keough-Jurs, FAICP, Director
Department of City Planning & Engagement

Byron Stallworth, Chair
City Planning Commission

Date: _____

Date: _____

**Honorable City Planning Commission
Cincinnati, Ohio**

March 17, 2023

SUBJECT: A report and recommendation on a proposed Development Plan and Final Plat at 5500 Madison Road in Madisonville.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Location: 5500 Madison Road, Cincinnati, OH 45227

Applicant: Craig Abercrombie, Abercrombie & Associates, Inc.
8111 Cheviot Road, Suite 200, Cincinnati, OH 45247

Owner: Campbell Berling Development
3333 Madison Pike, Site C, Ft. Wright, KY 41017

ATTACHMENTS:

Provided in addition to this report are the following attachments:

- Exhibit A Location Map
- Exhibit B Application of Division of Land
- Exhibit C Development Plan and Legal Descriptions
- Exhibit D Coordinated Site Review (CSR) Letter CPRE220009
- Exhibit E Public Comment

BACKGROUND:

The applicant, Abercrombie & Associates, on behalf of the owner, Campbell Berling Development, requests a subdivision of one existing vacant parcel into eight lots. This will be for the purpose of constructing a run of three rowhouses and a run of four rowhouses for a total of seven newly built rowhouses, each on their own respective parcel, with a shared access drive off Anderson Place. The proposed lots are 2,000 – 2,540 square feet in size. The subject property is in Madisonville and is in a T4N.SF-O (Neighborhood Small Footprint Open Zone) Form-Based Code zoning district.

The proposed subdivision of land requires review by the City Planning Commission as it is considered a Major Subdivision per Section 200-01-S5 and 200-01-S6 of the Subdivision Regulations.

CRITERIA/ANALYSIS – SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS:

Section 200-01-S5 of the Subdivision Regulations defines a Major Subdivision as any “subdivision of a parcel of land that does not meet the definition of a minor subdivision as defined by Section 200-01-S6.” Section 200.01-S6 defines a Minor Subdivision as a “subdivision of a parcel of land that abuts an existing improved public or private street into no more than three lots, but excluding subdivisions that propose or require one or more of the following features:

- (c) A request involving a parcel of land that the owner or applicant intends to further subdivide and the planned subdivision together will result in four or more lots.

The proposed subdivision would create seven buildable lots and one shared-access driveway lot.

Based upon the criteria above, the proposed subdivision meets the definition of a Major Subdivision. Section 300-09 of the Subdivision Regulations outlines the procedure for Major Subdivisions, which establishes that the City Planning Commission has the duty to hold a public hearing for Major Subdivision applications. According to Section 300-09 (a) (6) *Decision*, the City Planning Commission shall approve a development plan application when it finds:

(i) *City Plans*. The application is consistent with applicable city-adopted land use plans.

The proposed subdivision is consistent with housing goals in *Plan Cincinnati* (2012) as it would permit the new construction of seven detached single-family homes. See “Consistency with Plans” for more information.

(ii) *Planning Principles*. The application is consistent with the general intent and purposes of these subdivision regulations.

The proposed subdivision is generally consistent with General Provision Purposes outlined in Section 100-03 of the Subdivision Regulations.

(iii) *City Administration Standards, Rules, and Regulations*. The application is consistent with applicable laws, rules, and regulations governing the proposed subdivision, including, but not limited to, subdivision lot standards set forth in these subdivision regulations, the Cincinnati Zoning Code, and the Flood Damage Reduction Chapter of the Cincinnati Building Code.

The proposed subdivision was circulated to City departments for review. There were no objections to the proposed subdivision. See “Coordinated Site Review” for more information.

(iv) *Design*. The subdivision is designed to minimize disturbance to natural topography, tree cover, and natural drainage ways to avoid adverse impacts on area stormwater drainage.

The proposed subdivision was reviewed by Stormwater Management Utility, which required that runoff must be contained within the site, and to submit further calculations and plans.

(v) *Access and Public Service*. Existing or proposed streets, sidewalks, driveways, and utilities that will serve the subdivision are configured and designed to minimize adverse impacts related to traffic circulation and to ensure the efficient provisions of all public services, including emergency services.

Each of the townhomes will be accessed from an access driveway from Anderson Place. The Fire Department reviewed the proposed subdivision and did not have any concerns regarding access.

(vi) *Multiple Phases*. If applicable, the phasing plan will provide for an orderly and efficient development.

Not applicable as it is planned to all be constructed in a single phase.

COORDINATED SITE REVIEW:

The proposed subdivision was reviewed by City departments through the Coordinated Site Review process. No departments had concerns about the proposed subdivision; however, various utilities included requirements for adding service to the property. Department comments are included in Exhibit D.

PUBLIC COMMENT AND NOTIFICATION:

Per Section 300-09(a)(3) of the Subdivision Regulations, notice of complete application and the City Planning Commission meeting was sent on March 3, 2023, to property owners within 200 feet of the subject property, the Madisonville Community Council, and the Madisonville Community Urban Redevelopment Corporation. A notice sign was also posted on the property per Section 300-09 (a)(2) of the Subdivision Regulations. The Madisonville Community Council provided a letter of support, and there was one email correspondence from a nearby resident that expressed concerns about the proposed subdivision. To view the letter of support and email correspondence, see Exhibit E.

CONSISTENCY WITH PLANS:

The proposed subdivision is consistent with the Goal in the Live Initiative Area of *Plan Cincinnati* (2012) to “Provide a full spectrum of housing options and improve housing quality and affordability” (p. 164) and the Strategy to “Offer housing options of varied sizes and types for residents at all stages of life” (p. 169).

The proposed subdivision will permit the applicant to construct seven single-family rowhomes on a lot that was previously vacant.

RECOMMENDATION:

The staff of the Department of City Planning and Engagement recommends that the City Planning Commission take the following action:

APPROVE the proposed Development Plan and Final Plat at 5500 Madison Road in Madisonville as the proposed subdivision is generally consistent with General Provision Purposes outlined in Section 100-03 of the Subdivision Regulations.

Respectfully submitted:



Andrew Halt, AICP, PE (PA), City Planner
Department of City Planning and Engagement

Approved:



Katherine Keough-Jurs, FAICP, Director
Department of City Planning and Engagement

Proposed Subdivision at 5500 Madison Road in in Madisonville



SF-10




T4N.SF-0

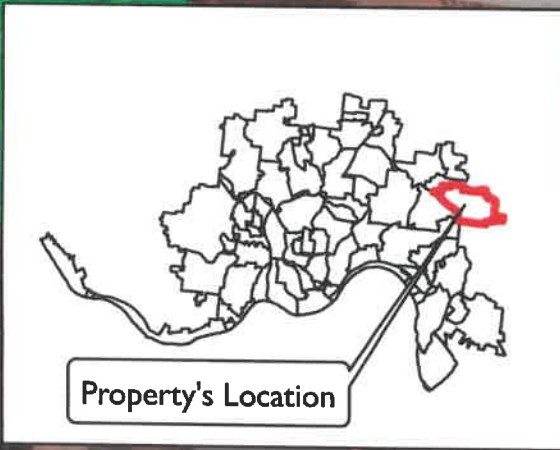
ANDERSON PL

T4N.SF-0

MADISON RD

RM-1.2

-  Subject Property
-  Proposed Lot Lines
-  Driveway



APPLICATION FOR A DIVISION OF LAND

City Planning Commission
Cincinnati, Ohio



Property Address: 5500 Madison Road

Neighborhood: Madisonville

Parcel ID: 35-1-58

Date of Application: _____

Request (Check all that apply): Subdivision of Land (up to 3 lots created)
 Subdivision of Land (4 or more lots created)
 Subdivision Improvement Plan

Final Plat
 Other: _____

Additional Information:

Is the subject land located within a Hillside Overlay District?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the subject land located within a Special Flood Hazard Area?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the request include any rear lots (panhandle lots)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the request include any air lots?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the request involve a street and/or utility extension/opening?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Will the request require the removal/demolition of an existing structure?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Applicant/Grantee: Craig Abercrombie Firm, Company, etc.: Abercrombie & Associates, Inc.

Address: 8111 Cheviot Road, Suite 200, Cincinnati, Ohio 45247

Phone: 513-385-5757 Email: craig@abercrombie-associates.com

Property Owner/Grantor (if different than applicant): Campbell Berling Development

Firm, Company, etc.: Greg Berling

Property Owner Address: 3333 Madison Pike, Suite C, Ft. Wright, KY 41017

Phone: (859) 250-8285 Email: gberling@cbman.com

SUBMITTAL CHECKLIST:

- Submittal Requirements of the applicable request as established in Chapter 4 of the *Subdivision Regulations*
- Current Deed
- Legal Description(s)
- Copy of Plat showing location of existing structures and foundations on lot (accepted sizes 11x17 or 8.5 x 11)
- Signed Requirements for Notice Sign for the Subdivision of Land Agreement – attached

AUTHORIZATION:

The applicant or agent undersigned does hereby certify that the information and statements given on the application, surveys, drawings, legal instruments, and inspections are to the best of their knowledge, true and correct. The undersigned further certifies their authorization to grant consent to the inspection by the employees of the City of Cincinnati of the described premise(s) before the Department of City Planning or the Planning Commission takes action on this application. The undersigned acknowledges and affirms that the approval of this application shall not warrant or guarantee access to, or the availability of, utility service to the subject premise(s) of this application.

Applicant/Grantee Signature

Date

Property Owner/Grantor Signature

11/7/22
Date

STAFF USE ONLY

APPLICATION REVIEW:

- Tracking/Composition Number: _____
- Zoning of Subject Land: _____
- Zoning Compliance Affirmed by: _____
- Tentative Hearing Date: _____
- Plat prepared by surveyor? Yes No
- Consolidation Plat Required? Yes No
- Requires variance approval by CPC? Yes No
- Notes/Other Requirements: _____

APPROVAL:

Division of Land Approved By: _____

Date: _____

APPLICATION FOR A DIVISION OF LAND

City Planning Commission
Cincinnati, Ohio



REQUIREMENTS FOR NOTICE SIGN FOR THE SUBDIVISION OF LAND

Within 24 hours of the submission of a minor or major subdivision application, the applicant/ undersigned shall post a notice sign on the subject property in the form and manner prescribed below, pursuant to Sections 300-07 (b) and Section 300-09 (a)(2) of the Subdivision Regulations of the City of Cincinnati. The applicant/ undersigned shall cause the notice sign to remain posted until final disposition of the application.

- The sign shall be posted in a location on the subject property (outside of the public right-of-way) that remains visible from the property's primary street frontage (no more than 10 feet away from the public right-of-way).
- A photo verifying the sign is posted on the subject property shall be emailed to jared.ellis@cincinnati-oh.gov within 24 hours of submittal of application. The photo shall demonstrate the location of the sign on the property in relation to the primary street frontage.
- The sign shall be returned to the City of Cincinnati Department of City Planning within 24 hours of the City's disposition on the requested application.
- Failure to return the sign, cause the sign to remain on site, or request a new sign if the sign disappears from the site, may be subject to Section 900-11 of the Subdivision Regulations below:

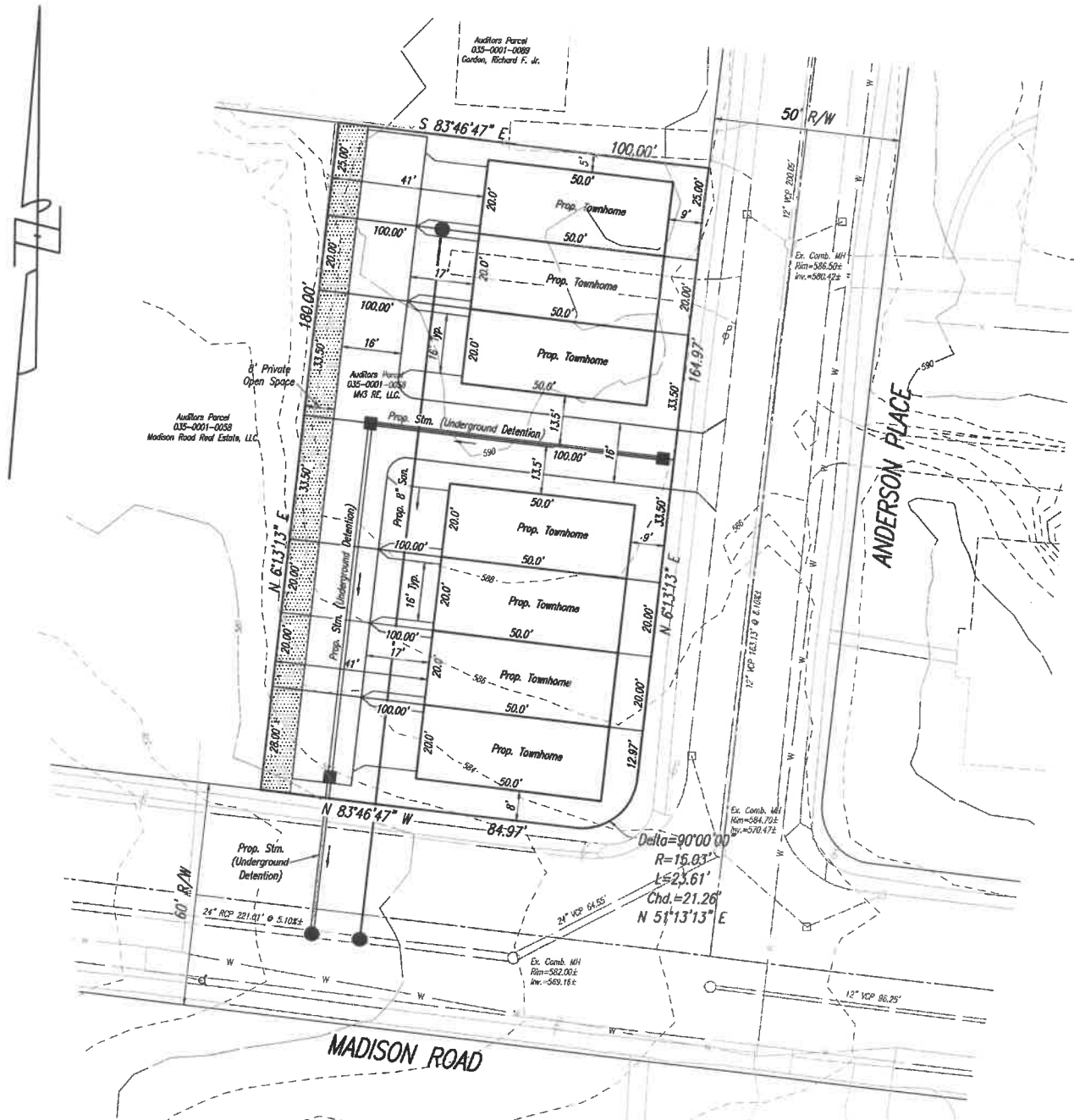
Section 900-11. – Penalties

Any person who fails to comply with, violates, or interferes with another person's effort to comply with any provision of these regulations shall be guilty of a minor misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be fined \$100 for each violation. Each day that any violation continues after notification by the Director of City Planning, or his or her designee, that a violation exists shall be considered a separate offense for purposes of penalties and remedies specified in this section.

The undersigned does hereby acknowledge and affirm that he or she shall comply with the aforementioned obligations in good faith.

[Signature] 11/7/22
Applicant/Grantee Signature Date

[Signature] 2.22.23
Department of City Planning Date
Engagement



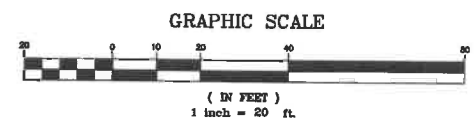
ZONING ANALYSIS
 TAN.SF-OPEN ZONE (TAN.SF-0)

MAXIMUM BUILDING HEIGHT (2 1/2 STORIES MAX.):
 24' TO EYE/PARAPET & 35' OVERALL

BUILDING SEBACKS:
 INTERIOR LOT 5' MIN./15' MAX.
 CORNER LOT 0' MIN./15' MAX.
 SIDE 3' MIN./9' MAX.
 REAR 20' MIN.

AN 8'X8' MIN. PRIVATE OPEN SPACE IS
 REQUIRED FOR EACH PARCEL.

DEVELOPER/APPLICANT
 CAMPBELL BERLING LLC
 3333 MADISON ROAD
 SUITE 3
 FT. WRIGHT, KENTUCKY 41017
 (859) 578-8500



REVISIONS 1-21-22		SECTION-16, TOWN-4, F.RANGE-2 CITY OF CINCINNATI HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO	
		 Abercrombie & Associates, Inc. Civil Engineering + Surveying 8111 Cheviot Road, Suite 200 - Cincinnati, Ohio 45247 513-385-5757 • www.abercombie-associates.com	
SCALE	DATE		
1"=20'	6-18-21	21-0142	R.B.
DWG.: RB-PRM		1	1

ANDERSON PLACE

SECTION-16, TOWN-4, F.RANGE-2

CITY OF CINCINNATI, HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO



VICINITY MAP

GRANT OF EASEMENT

FOR VALUABLE CONSIDERATION, WE THE UNDERSIGNED DO HEREBY PERMANENTLY GRANT UNTO OUR ENERGY AND SUBSIDIARIES, CINCINNATI UTILITIES, THAT WHETHER CABLE, COAXIAL AND ANY OTHER PROVIDER OF UTILITY SERVICES APPROVED BY THE CITY ENGINEER OF CINCINNATI, THEIR SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, THROUGH THE CITY ENGINEER OF CINCINNATI, THE RIGHT TO USE, TRAVEL OR PENETRATE ANY TRACES, UNDERGROUND OR OVERHEAD, BRANCHES WITHIN SAID EASEMENT OR IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT THEREUTO, NO BUILDINGS OR OTHER STRUCTURES MAY BE BUILT WITHIN SAID EASEMENTS, NOR MAY THE EASEMENT AREAS BE PHYSICALLY ALTERED SO AS TO (1) REDUCE CLEARANCES OF OTHER OVERHEAD OR UNDERGROUND FACILITIES; (2) IMPAIR THE LAND SUPPORT OF SAID FACILITIES; (3) IMPAIR ABILITY TO MAINTAIN THE FACILITIES OR (4) CREATE A HAZARD TO HAVE AND TO HOLD THE SAID EASEMENTS FOREVER, WE ACKNOWLEDGE HAVING FULL POWER TO CONVEY THIS EASEMENT AND WILL DEFEND THE SAME AGAINST ALL CLAIMS.

ALSO HEREBY GRANTED TO OUR ENERGY OWNERS/PROVIDER, INC. AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES, SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS IS THE RIGHT TO LAATERALLY EXTEND, REPAIR, AND MAINTAIN UNDERGROUND UTILITY SERVICES TO SERVE INDIVIDUAL LOTS AS CONSTRUCTED BY THE ORIGINAL BUILDER ALLOWING DISTURBANCE ONLY OVER EXISTING SERVICE LINES NECESSARY FOR THE REPAIR ONLY ON THE LOT ON WHICH THE SERVICE IS LOCATED. RECONSTRUCTION OR RELOCATION IS PERMISSIBLE ONLY WITH WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE POWER OWNER AND SAID UTILITY PROVIDER TO A NATURALLY ASSIGNABLE LOCATION, NO PART OF THE UTILITY EASEMENTS SHALL ENCUMBER EXISTING BUILDINGS OR ADJACENT LOTS.

DESIGNATION

WE THE UNDERSIGNED, DO HEREBY ADOPT AND CONFIRM THIS PLAT AND LOCATE UNDERGROUND AS SHOWN HEREON TO PUBLIC USE FOR STREET PURPOSES FOREVER AND GRANT UNTO THE CITY OF CINCINNATI ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, EASEMENTS FOR STORM SEWERS AS SHOWN HEREON, BEING EQUIVARIANT ON EACH SIDE OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE SEWER AS CONSTRUCTED AND SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS ON SEWER EASEMENTS AS DESCRIBED HEREON. WE ALSO GUARANTEE THE PAYMENT OF ALL SALES AND ASSESSMENTS THAT ARE A LIEN ON THE PROPERTY ON THE DATE OF ACCEPTANCE.

SHEET: CAMPBELL BERLING, LLC.

HOWEVER STATEMENT

STATE OF OHIO: COUNTY OF HAMILTON, S.S.

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT ON THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 20____, BEFORE ME A NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR SAID STATE, PERSONALLY APPEARED _____, HAVINGING MEMBER OF CAMPBELL BERLING, LLC, WHO REPRESENTED THAT THEY ARE DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE PRINCIPALS AND WHO DECLARED THAT THEY HAD SEEN THE FOREGOING INSTRUMENT AND THAT THE SAME IS THEIR VOLUNTARY ACT AND DEED FOR THE USES AND PURPOSES IN SAID INSTRUMENT MENTIONED.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I HEREBY SET MY HAND AND AFTER MY NOTORIAL SEAL ON THIS DAY AND DATE FOREGOING.

NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF _____
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES _____

DEED STATEMENT

PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY CAMPBELL BERLING DEVELOPMENT BY DEED RECORDED IN OFFICIAL RECORDED BOOK 1460A, PAGE 2115 OF THE RECORDED OFFICE OF HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO AND REFERENCED AS AUDITORS PARCEL 033-0001-0055 OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY AUDITORS OFFICE.

SEWER CHARGE ASSESSMENTS AND FEES

THE OWNERS OF ALL PROPERTIES SHOWN ON THIS RECORD PLAT SHALL BE SUBJECT TO ALL APPLICABLE SEWER SERVICE CHARGES, ASSESSMENTS, TAP-IN CHARGES OR FEES WHICH HAVE BEEN OR MAY BE ESTABLISHED BY THE BOARD OF HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OR THE CITY OF CINCINNATI.

PLANNING COMMISSION APPROVAL

RECORD PLAT APPROVED BY THE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION ON THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 20____.

KATHERINE KEOUGH-ARIS, DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING

PRIVATE SEWER EASEMENT

THE CITY OF CINCINNATI AND THE HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DOES NOT ACCEPT ANY PRIVATE SEWER EASEMENTS SHOWN ON THIS PLAT. THE CITY OF CINCINNATI AND THE HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS IS NOT OBLIGATED TO MAINTAIN, REPAIR, OR OPERATE ANY PRIVATE SEWER LINE IN THE SUBDIVISION, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF ALL PRIVATE SEWER LINES WITHIN THE SUBDIVISION ARE THE OBLIGATION OF THE OWNERS OF THE LOTS USING THE PRIVATE SEWER LINES.

CITY ENGINEER NOTES

NO PART OF ANY DRIVEWAY OR DRIVEWAY APPROVED WITHIN THE ROAD RIGHT OF WAY SHALL BE INSTALLED CLOSER THAN THE FEET (5') FROM ANY INLET, UTILITY POLE, CURB WALK, ANCHOR, OR FIRE HYDRANT.

UNDERGROUND SPRINKLER SYSTEMS SHALL NOT BE PERMITTED WITHIN ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY.

CITY OF CINCINNATI

PLAT APPROVED BY THE CITY OF CINCINNATI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND ENGINEERING THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 20____.

BY _____
CITY OF CINCINNATI, CITY ENGINEER

NOT YET ACCEPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CINCINNATI; ORDINANCE TO BE SUBMITTED AND WILL BE RECORDED SEPARATELY BY THE CITY UPON COUNCIL'S ACCEPTANCE.

PRIVATE DRAINAGE LIMITS

PRIVATE DRAINAGE LIMITS SHOWN ON THIS PLAT ARE NOT ACCEPTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HAMILTON COUNTY OR THE CITY OF CINCINNATI AND THE COUNTY OF HAMILTON OR THE CITY OF CINCINNATI IS NOT RESPONSIBLE TO MAINTAIN, REPAIR, OR REPAIR CHANNELS OR REGULATIONS IN SAID LIMITS. THE SAID LIMITS AND ALL IMPROVEMENTS BY THE OWNER, THEIR ASSIGNS, SUCCESSORS OR HEIRS OF THE ESTATE WITHIN THESE LIMITS, NO STRUCTURES, PLANTING OR OTHER MATERIAL SHALL BE PLACED OR PERMITTED TO REMAIN WHICH MAY OBSTRUCT, RETARD OR CHANGE THE DIRECTION OF FLOW OF WATER THROUGH THE DRAINAGE CHANNELS. IN THE SAID LIMITS, PERMISSION SHALL BE OBTAINED BY WRITING FROM THE METROPOLITAN SEWER DISTRICT OF GREATER CINCINNATI, OHIO PRIOR TO ANY CHANGES TO BE MADE TO SAID LIMITS.

SEWER NOTE

THE OWNERS OF ALL PROPERTIES SHOWN ON THIS PLAT SHALL BE SUBJECT TO ALL APPLICABLE SANITARY SEWER CHARGES, ASSESSMENTS, TAP-IN CHARGES OR FEES WHICH HAVE BEEN OR MAY BE ESTABLISHED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HAMILTON COUNTY.

ZONING

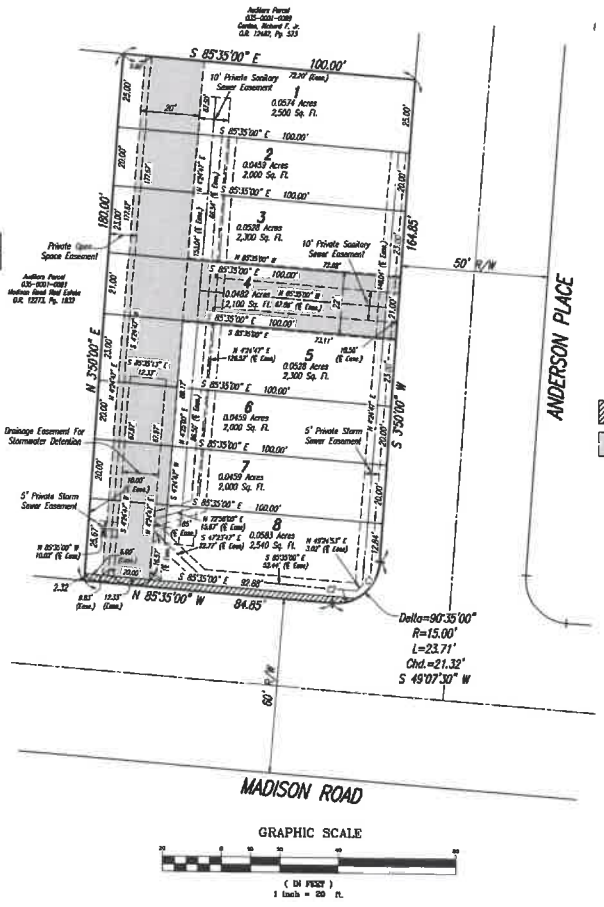
TWELFTH-OPEN ZONE (TWELFTH-O)

FRONT YARD SETBACK = INTERIOR LOT 5' MIN./7.5' MAX.
CORNER LOT 5' MIN./7.5' MAX.
SIDE YARD SETBACK = 3' MIN./2.5' MAX.
REAR YARD SETBACK = 20'

SURVEYOR CERTIFICATION

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE SURVEYED THE FOREGOING HEREON AND VERIFY ALL DIMENSIONS. I HAVE FOUND OR SET 9 MONUMENTS AS SHOWN.

STEPHEN L. CHILL
OHIO REGISTERED SURVEYOR NO. 7862



CLOSURE - 0.4121 ACRES

Line North: 5,005.3480'	East: 4,820.2085'
Line Course: N 85°35'00" W	Length: 91.85'
North: 5,011.8523'	East: 4,904.8915'
Line Course: N 35°07'00" E	Length: 180.00'
North: 5,191.4361'	East: 4,916.7253'
Line Course: S 85°35'00" E	Length: 100.00'
North: 5,183.7267'	East: 5,016.4283'
Line Course: S 75°07'00" W	Length: 154.85'
North: 5,018.2925'	East: 5,005.4074'
Curve Length: 21.37'	Radius: 15.00'
Chord: 21.37'	Angle: 15.15'
Course In: W 84°10'00" W	Course Out: S 49°07'30" W
PI North: 5,028.3003'	Error North: -0.00282
End North: 5,005.3454'	Error East: -0.00301
Perimeter: 553.41'	Area: 17,950 Sq. Ft. 0.4121 Acres

Adjusted Closure = (Area Bated courses and chords)
Error Closure: 0.0046'
Error North: -0.00282
Error East: -0.00301
Precision 1: 137,255.00

N/W To Be Indicated
0.0048 Acres

Ingress/Egress to
Utility Easement

AREA SUMMARY

AREA IN LOTS = 0.4073 ACRES
AREA IN R/W = 0.0048 ACRES
TOTAL AREA = 0.4121 ACRES

APPROVED: _____
STORM WATER MANAGEMENT ENGINEER

APPROVED: _____
SANITARY SEWER CHIEF ENGINEER, MSD

SANITARY SEWER NO. 2198 (PRIVATE)

ANDERSON PLACE

RECORD PLAT

ANDERSON PLACE
SECTION-16, TOWN-4, F.RANGE-2
CITY OF CINCINNATI
HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO

DATE: 10-12-22

BY: G.R.

CHECKED BY: C.A.

SCALE: 1" = 20'

SHEET: 038-020

OWNER/DEVELOPER:
CAMPBELL BERLING, LLC
C/O PARKLAND HOMES
3333 MADISON PIKE
SUITE C
FT. WRIGHT, KENTUCKY 41017
(859) 250-8285

Abercrombie & Associates, Inc.
Civil Engineering & Surveying
10000 W. Chester Road, Suite 100
Chester, OH 45310
PH: 513-835-8200
WWW.ABERCROMBIEANDASSOCIATES.COM

DATE: 21-0142

14606 02133

53

Scott Crowley
Hamilton County Recorder's Office
Doc #: 2022-0017640 Type: DE
Filed: 02/16/22 12:59:57 PM \$42.00
Off. Rec.: 14606 02133 F 3 380

Convey number: 294605
Deed number: 22-587530
Instr. number: 22-570383
Transfer date: 02/18/2022
Sec.: 319.202, R.C.
Sec.: 322.02 R.C.
Dusty Rhodes
Hamilton County Auditor
Sales Amount: 310,000.00
Permissive fee: 820.00
Transfer fee: 0.50
Conveyance fee: 310.00



GENERAL WARRANTY DEED

KNOW ALL MEN, BY THESE PRESENTS, that MV3 RE, LLC, an Ohio limited liability company ("Grantor"), for valuable consideration paid, grants, with general warranty covenants, to CAMPBELL BERLING DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LLC, an Ohio limited liability company, whose tax-mailing address is 3333 Madison Pike, Suite C, Fort Wright, Kentucky 41017 ("Grantee"), the following real property (the "Property"):

SEE EXHIBIT A, ATTACHED HERETO

PRIOR INSTRUMENT REFERENCE: O.R. Book 13361, Page 01347, of the Official Records of Hamilton County, Ohio.

PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that excepted from Grantor's general warranty covenants are any and all restrictions, reservations, easements, covenants and agreements of record, zoning restrictions, legal highways, if any, and all taxes and assessments which are not yet due and payable.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has executed this General Warranty Deed as of this 15th day of February, 2022.

GRANTOR:

MV3 RE, LLC,
an Ohio limited liability company


By: 
Andy Radm, Authorized Signer

[ACKNOWLEDGMENT ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

This is an acknowledgment certificate; no oath or affirmation was given with respect to this notarial act.

STATE OF OHIO)
)
COUNTY OF BUTLER)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 15th day of February, 2022, by Andy Radin, Authorized Signer of MV3 RE, LLC, an Ohio limited liability company, on behalf of the limited liability company.



Notary Public
My Commission Expires: 2/1A

This instrument prepared by

Brian R. Tracy, Esq.
Strauss Troy Co., LPA
150 E. Fourth Street, 4th Floor
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
(513) 621-2120



BRIAN R. TRACY
Attorney at Law
Notary Public, State of Ohio
My Commission Has No Expiration
Date. Section 147.03 O.R.C.

EXHIBIT A
LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Situated in the City of Cincinnati, in Section 16, Township 4, Fractional Range 2 of the Miami Purchase, and more particularly described as follows: Beginning in the center line of Madison Road at a point 543.63 feet West of the intersection of the center line of Madison Road and the center line of Stewart Place; thence North 2° 35' East 210 feet to a point; thence North 87° 03' West 100 feet to a point; thence South 2° 35' West 210 feet to the center line of Madison Road; thence South 87° 03' East with the center line of Madison Road 100 feet to the place of beginning, and being Lot B, of the subdivision made by the Commissioner in Partition in Case No. 186550 of the Common Pleas Court of Hamilton County, Ohio. Subject to all legal highways.

Less and except the following:

Situate in Section 16, Town 4, Fractional Range 2, Columbia Township, Hamilton County, Ohio and being part of Lot B as shown on Commissioners Plat of the Ward Estate as recorded in Case No. 186550, Hamilton County Common Pleas Court Records and more particularly described as follows: BEGINNING at the intersection of the North line of Madison Road (60 feet wide) and the West line of Anderson Place (50 feet wide); thence North 88° 36' West along the North line of Madison Road, 15.13 feet; thence northeastwardly along a curve tangent to the last described course and deflecting to the left with a radius of 15 feet for 23.69 feet to a point in the West line of Anderson Place (the chord of said curve bearing North 46° 09' East for 21.31 feet); thence South 00° 54' West along the West line of Anderson Place and tangent to the last described curve, 15.13 feet to the place of beginning.

Subject to easements recorded in Deed Book 3295, Page 370.

Property Address: 5500 Madison Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45227
Parcel Number: 035-0001-0058-00

BY PRIOR

**DESCRIPTION ACCEPTABLE
HAMILTON COUNTY ENGINEER**

Tax Map - Feb 16 2022 DB

CAGIS - _____



March 15, 2022

Mr. Greg Berling
Campbell Berling LLC
3333 Madison Pike, Suite 3
Ft. Wright, KY 41017

Re: 5500 Madison Road | Seven Lot Attached Residential (D) – **(CPRE220009) Final**
Recommendations

Dear Mr. Berling,

This letter is to inform you that our CSR Advisory-TEAM and CSPRO Committee has reviewed your proposed project 5500 Madison Road in the Community of Madisonville. The information provided is the recommendations of the City of Cincinnati and must be followed as you move forward with your project. As a reminder, we will have a **WebEx conference call meeting** with you on **March 29, 2022 @ 10 am** to discuss this information. Please see the feedback listed below. Thank you for developing within the City of Cincinnati.

City Planning & Engagement Department

Immediate Requirements to move the project forward:

1. The subject property is located within the T4N.SF-O zoning district. Rowhouses are permitted within the district.
2. **If the applicant intends for the rowhouses to be single-family homes, then a major subdivision will be required (unless the lot is under a condominium agreement).**
3. If the applicant intends for the rowhouses to be apartments, then zoning relief can be sought for multiple principal structure on one lot.

Requirements to obtain permits:

- None

Recommendations:

1. The applicant is encouraged to engage the Madisonville Community Council, Madisonville Community Urban Redevelopment Corporation, and adjacent property owners. Contact information for the community council can be found here: <https://bit.ly/CommunityCouncilContacts>

Contact:

- **Maria Dienger** | City Planning | 513-352-4840 | maria.dienger@cincinnati-oh.gov

City Planning & Engagement Department – Zoning

Immediate Requirements to move the project forward:

1. The subject property is located in a T4N-SF form-based code transect. The Site Plan depicts the "Rowhouse" building type, but the renderings depict detached dwellings. Please clarify.
2. **Detailed Elevation drawings with dimensions are required before further Zoning review can be completed.**

3. The rowhouses will need frontage types compliant with Sec. 1703-3.90(D).
4. Per Sec. 1703-2.70(E), the maximum interior side yard setback is 9 feet. Based on the proposed Site Plan, you will require a Dimensional Variance of 4.5 feet for the middle lots to allow side yard setbacks of 13.5 feet.
5. Egress easements will need to be recorded.

Requirements to obtain permits:

1. Additional zoning requirements or relief may be necessary following more specific review.

Recommendations:

1. Work with Zoning Staff on the details of the Elevation drawings.

Contact:

- **Tre Sheldon** | ZPE | 513-352-2422 | henry.sheldon@cincinnati-oh.gov

Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD)

Immediate Requirements to move the project forward:

- None

Requirements to obtain permits:

1. A PTI from the OEPA will be required for sewer extension. Please contact Steve Parker at 513-244-1351 or steven.parker@cincinnati-oh.gov for assistance.
2. Detention will be reviewed by Jeff Chen at jeff.chen@cincinnati-oh.gov or 513-244-1357 per Section 303 of the MSD Rules and Regulations. For additional site storm water requirements within the City of Cincinnati, contact the Stormwater Management Utility (SMU) at 513.591.5050.
3. An approved site utility plan will be required for each residence to receive approved permit.

Recommendations

- None

Contact:

- **Jim Wood** | MSD | 513-352-4311 | jim.wood@cincinnati-oh.gov

Stormwater Management Utility (SMU)

Immediate Requirements to move the project forward:

- None

Requirements to obtain permits:

1. Detention requirements: submit
Detention calculations (may follow MSD 303 rules because project is located in area of combination sewers)
Section drawing of detention control structure with proposed elevations.
2. Grading plan:
 - Runoff must be contained within site.
 - Maximum allowed sheet flow onto public R/W is for 800 sf of impervious surfaces.
3. Utility Plan
 - Specify pipes materials & size for all proposed storm lines. Pipe in public R/W must be in RCP or DIP.
 - Show buildings downspouts connection to drainage system.

- Show private easements for any proposed storm line crossing a property line.
- 4. Submit an approved Erosion and Sediment control plan.
- 5. Include SMU's Standard Plan Notes (<https://cincinnati-oh.gov/stormwater/construction-and-design/standards/standard-plan-notes-updated-july-2017/>).

Recommendation:

- None

Contact:

- **Saidou Wane** | SMU | 513-352-3204 | saidou.wane@cincinnati-oh.gov

Water Works

Immediate Requirements to move the project forward:

- None

Requirements to obtain permits:

1. Must have a stamped and recorded plat for each parcel before any building permits will be approved or water service branches sold.
2. Each parcel will need to have its own water service branch. Water service lines are not to cross parcel lines.
3. The subject development property is receiving water service from the following:

Address	Branch #	Size	Meter #	Size
5500 Madison Rd.	H-950427	5/8"	0290240	5/8" Lead on public and private side*

* Please note that there are known health risk with lead service lines. Greater Cincinnati Water Works records indicate the existing water service line (H-950427) at this site is a Lead Service line. In accordance with CMC Chapter 401 Division M, should be replaced with copper service line if it is to remain. Please contact the GCWW Lead Service Line Replacement Coordinator at 513-651-5323 and/or refer to <http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/water/lead-information/>.

Recommendations:

1. Any existing water service branch(es) for this project are not to be used for this development, the owner would be required to fill out the online FOD form at <https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/water/engineering-construction/forms-specifications/fod/> authorizing removal of any existing water service branch before any new water service can be sold.
2. The Owner(s)/Developer(s) will need to hire a Greater Cincinnati Water Works certified licensed and bonded plumber to perform the private water service branch design work and installation.
3. The Owner(s)/Developer(s) must have a licensed plumber that is bonded and certified with GCWW and fill out the Online Branch application <https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/water/engineering-construction/forms-specifications/> for water service.

Contact:

- **Rick Roell** | WaterWorks | 513-591-7858 | richard.roell@gcww.cincinnati-oh.gov

Fire Department

Immediate Requirements to move the project forward:

- None

Requirements to obtain Permits:

- None

Recommendations:

- None

Contact:

- **Kenneth Caldwell** | Fire Dept. | 513-357-7595 | kenneth.caldwell@cincinnati-oh.gov

Office of Environment and Sustainability (OES)

Immediate Requirements to move forward with project:

- None

Requirements to obtain permits:

1. Commercial waste, including construction and demolition debris, generated during this development project must utilize a City franchised commercial waste collection service per Cincinnati Municipal Code Chapter 730. Additional information can be found at <https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/oes/commercial-waste-hauler-program/>.

Recommendations:

1. The following recommendations are based on adopted City of Cincinnati environmental and sustainability policy:
 - a. The development goal should be to earn at a minimum the LEED Certified rating level.
 - b. Rooftop solar should be considered in the design as a renewable energy source.
 - c. Site parking should be wired for electric vehicle charging.
 - d. Site areas should include space designated for recycling carts.
 - e. The use of trees in the landscape design should be included to enhance urban forestry.
 - f. The use of pervious surfaces should be maximized to the extent practical in the design.

Contact:

- **Howard Miller** | OES | 513-352-6999 | howard.miller@cincinnati-oh.gov

Parks Department (Urban Forestry)

Immediate Requirements to move the project forward:

- None

Requirements to obtain permits:

1. There are a couple small street trees on the Anderson PI side of this property. If you need to remove them, you will have to pay for their value. Also, there is space in the tree lawn to plant more trees on the Anderson PI side and we would like to require that.
2. There does not appear to be any room to plant trees on the Madison Rd side unless you plan to replace the sidewalk there and make the tree lawn wider.

Recommendations:

- None

Contact:

- **Marianne Prue** | Urban Forestry | 513-861-9070 | marianne.prue@cincinnati-oh.gov

Department of Transportation & Engineering (DOTE)

Immediate Requirements to move the project forward:

- None

Requirements to obtain permits:

1. 10' minimum right of way from the curb is needed on Madison Road. The additional property needs to be dedicated.
2. Relocate the proposed driveway to the north part of the property to allow for maximum distance from the intersection.
3. Driveway needs to be 20' minimum in width.
4. Sidewalk on Anderson and Madison needs to be 5' minimum tree lawn and 5' minimum sidewalk.
5. Use City standard driveway apron. Driveway apron must meet all minimum clearance requirements.
6. All work in the right of way will require a DOTE permit.
7. Assigned addresses are 5001 through 5013 Anderson Place (odd), with the numbers increasing to the north. Contact DTEaddress@cincinnati-oh.gov with questions or if there is any change to the number of homes or street which they will be accessed/face.

Recommendations:

- None

Contact:

- **Morgan Kolks** | DOTE | 513-335-7322 | morgan.kolks@cincinnati-oh.gov

Buildings & Inspections – Buildings

Immediate Requirements to move the project forward:

- None

Requirements to obtain permits:

1. Additional information would allow a better response.
2. Which code is governing?
3. How are walls rated?

Recommendations:

- None

Contact:

- **Robert Martin** | B&I Plans Exam | 513-352-2456 | robert.martin@cincinnati-oh.gov

Law Department

Immediate Requirements to move the project forward:

1. No comments at this time.

Requirements to obtain permits:

- None

Recommendations:

- None

Contact:

- **Charles Martinez** | Law | 513-352-3359 | charles.martinez@cincinnati-oh.gov

Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED)

Immediate Requirements to move the project forward:

- None

Requirements to obtain permits:

- None

Recommendations:

- None

Contact:

- **Diana Vakharia** | DCED | 513-352-6130 | diana.vakharia@cincinnati-oh.gov

Health Department

Immediate Requirements to move the project forward:

- None

Requirements to obtain permits:

1. No need for Health to review project as proposed.

Recommendations:

- None

Contact:

- **Trisha Blake** | Health Dept. | 513-352-2447 | trisha.blake@cincinnati-oh.gov

Police Department

Immediate Requirements to move the project forward:

- None currently.

Requirements to obtain permits:

- No comments.

Recommendations:

- None

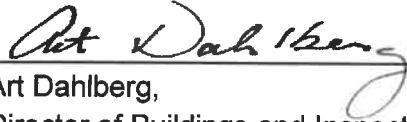
Contact:

- **Katalin Howard** | Police Dept. | 513-352-3298 | katalin.howard@cincinnati-oh.gov
- **Brandon Kyle** | Police Dept. | 513-564-1870 | brandon.kyle@cincinnati-oh.gov

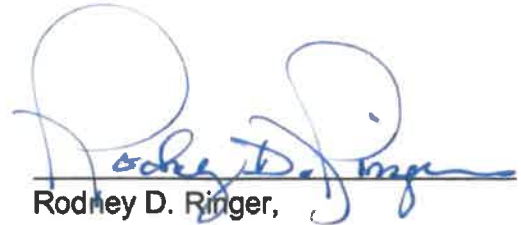
FINAL ACTION: The CSR Advisory-TEAM and CSPRO Committee believes that the proposed project plans are moving in the appropriate direction and recommends that the project move forward to City Planning Commission subject to the following condition.

- **The subject development must follow the requirements listed above to ensure that the development meets the requirements of all agencies as they apply for all permits.**

Sincerely,



Art Dahlberg,
Director of Buildings and Inspections Department
& CSPRO Committee Chair



Rodney D. Ringer,
Development Manager

AD:RDR:hs



November 22, 2022

Bob Krohngold,
Campbell Berling Development
3333 Madison Pike str 300
Ft. Wright, KY 41017

Mr. Krohngold,

On behalf of the Madisonville Community Council (MCC), I am writing to express our support of your planned lot split at 5500 Madison Road as presented at the regularly scheduled General Body meeting on Thursday, November 17, 2022. The motion approved at that meeting was called to be:

- Major Subdivision of land from 1 parcel to 8 lots for 7 townhomes and 1 driveway at 5500 Madison Road

This vote occurred after a presentation by your chosen presentative, who also made himself available for questions and comments from those in attendance. It is our understanding that the final step in the approval process will be for your application to be reviewed by the City Planning Commission. If your project is approved, any major construction updates would be greatly appreciated, particularly considering the expressed concern at the meeting for traffic management and safety at this busy intersection.

Should you, or a representative from the City of Cincinnati's Department of Planning and Engagement, have any need to discuss this item further, please contact me directly at president@ourmadisonville.com.

Thank you for your engagement with MCC, and good luck on the project,

Kerry Devery
President, Madisonville Community Council

Officers

President

Kerry Devery

Vice President

Open Position

Treasurer

Susan Harper

Recording Secretary

Anna Albi

Corresponding Secretary

Ann Boland

Committee Chairs

Arts, Parks, & Recreation

Stephanie Myers-Cable

Business & Economic

Development

Open Position

Bylaws

Open Position

Cleanup & Beautification

Joan Willis

Communications

Amanda Mahaffey

Crime Prevention & Safety

Open Position

Education

Kate Botos

History

Wes Cunningham

Housing

Elishia Chamberlain

Madisonville Cares

Open Position

MYCC (Youth Council)

Rosemary Tanks

Membership

Melissa Wilkerson

Transportation

Kathleen Colley

Halt, Andrew

From: Kari Newhouse <newhousemusic@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 8:49 AM
To: Halt, Andrew
Subject: [External Email] 5500 Madison Rd - Major subdivision land application concerns

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[You don't often get email from newhousemusic@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

External Email Communication

To the Department of City Planning and engagement,

I live on Anderson Pl. a few houses away from the development plan on 5500 Madison Rd. My concerns are that Anderson Pl is a small residential street that is already a route for an elementary school. And even though part of this proposed construction is on Madison Rd, the largest side of it is on small Anderson pl. Seven houses on this small lot seems completely out of place. Why must all of this development use up every inch of this lot? Leave some green, leave the look of the street. There is no street parking on Madison rd, and the apartment unit across from proposed site parks on average 6 cars in the street. This 7 unit even with garages will have guests visiting and the street is just so small and isn't meant for a lot of street parking.

Please consider the look, size and vibe of our little neighborhood street and try not to let a development of 7 units, that is too large and out of place for that lot go forward.

I would also insist that the company plants two somewhat mature trees on the curb side to replace the ones they just removed for their trucks. I am hoping that is the law here in Cincinnati, but I implore the city impose this to the development company whatever final plan goes through.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Kari Newhouse

March 17, 2023

**Honorable City Planning Commission
Cincinnati, Ohio**

SUBJECT: A report and recommendation on a proposed naming of unnamed steps between Vine Street and Ohio Avenue to “Fig Alley Steps” in Mt. Auburn.

BACKGROUND:

A request to name an unnamed set of steps between Vine Street and Ohio Avenue in Mt. Auburn, along the CUF border, was received from “Step up to Art” in coordination with “Spring in Our Steps” in early 2023. More specifically, the location is situated approximately at 2023 Vine Street at the steps and approximately at 2020 Ohio Avenue at the steps.

Beyond the naming, the applicant intends for the steps to have a gateway style sign between Mt. Auburn and CUF, which will be designed by the Department of Transportation and Engineering (DOTE). The applicants are also working with DOTE and the Department of Public Services to potentially plant some fig trees along the staircase, which exist on the property above the steps on Van Lear Street. This name has been vetted through DOTE and “Fig Alley Steps” does not exist anywhere in Hamilton County.

COMMITTEE OF NAMES:

In accordance with the City of Cincinnati Committee of Names, Procedure for Processing Proposals for the naming or renaming of City Facilities, as empowered by resolution 16-2003, a request to name the unnamed steps has been submitted for consideration:

1. The naming of the unnamed steps between Vine Street and Ohio Avenue in Mt. Auburn.

The Committee of Names voted unanimously in January 2023 to support the step naming to “Fig Alley Steps.” The Committee of Names is recommending to the Director of City Planning and Engagement to name these unnamed steps between Vine Street and Ohio Avenue.

PROCEDURE:

Pursuant to Section III, E of the Committee of Names Procedure for Processing Proposals: The Director of City Planning and Engagement shall consider the Committee of Names’ vote and recommendation and make a recommendation to the City Planning Commission. The Director is not bound by the Committee’s recommendation. The City Planning Commission shall consider the Director’s recommendation and pursuant to its advisory powers under Article VII Section 9 of the City Charter, make a recommendation to City Council, together with any necessary and appropriate legislation.

NOTIFICATION:

Upon receiving the request, the Department of City Planning and Engagement staff sent out notices on March 3, 2023, to neighboring property owners, although there are no properties with addresses on this set of steps. Both the Mt. Auburn Community Council and the neighboring CUF Neighborhood Association were notified. Each Community Council reviewed the proposal at their full meetings and there is no opposition to the step naming. There has been no other opposition to the step naming to-date. Attached is a letter of support from the CUF Neighborhood Association.

CONSISTENCY WITH PLAN CINCINNATI:

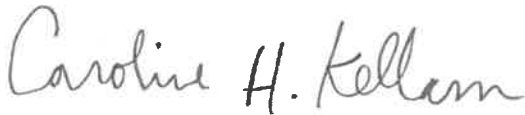
The proposed step naming is consistent with the Connect Initiative Area of *Plan Cincinnati* (2012), "Maintain public stairway and alleyway systems" (page 130).

RECOMMENDATION:

The staff of the Department of City Planning and Engagement, after considering all relevant correspondence and Committee of Names, recommends that the City Planning Commission take the following action:

APPROVE the naming of unnamed steps between Vine Street and Ohio Avenue to "Fig Alley Steps" in Mt. Auburn.

Respectfully submitted:



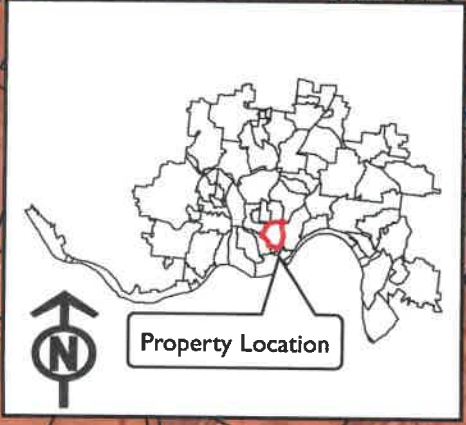
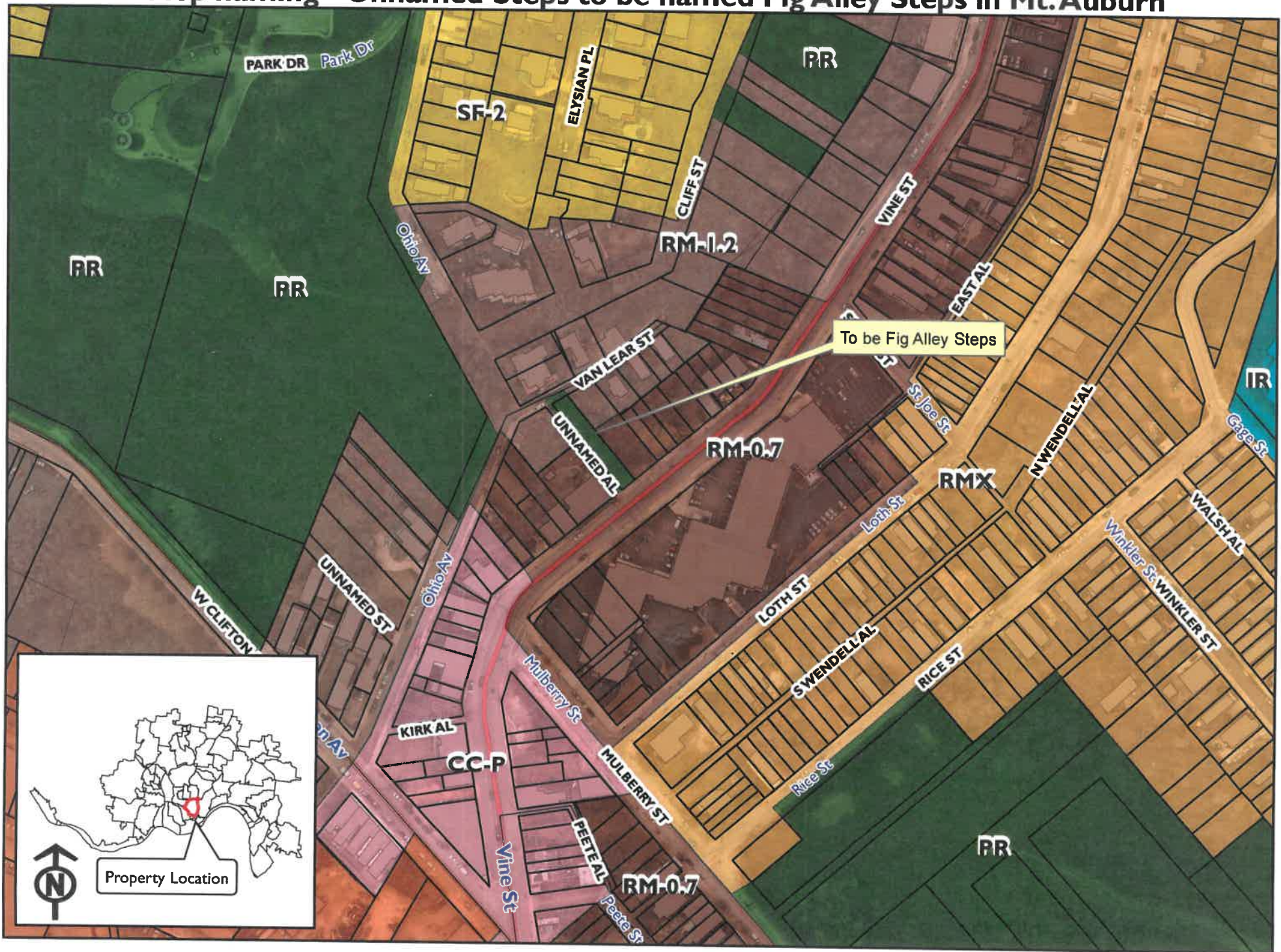
Caroline Hardy Kellam, Senior City Planner
Department of City Planning and Engagement

Approved:

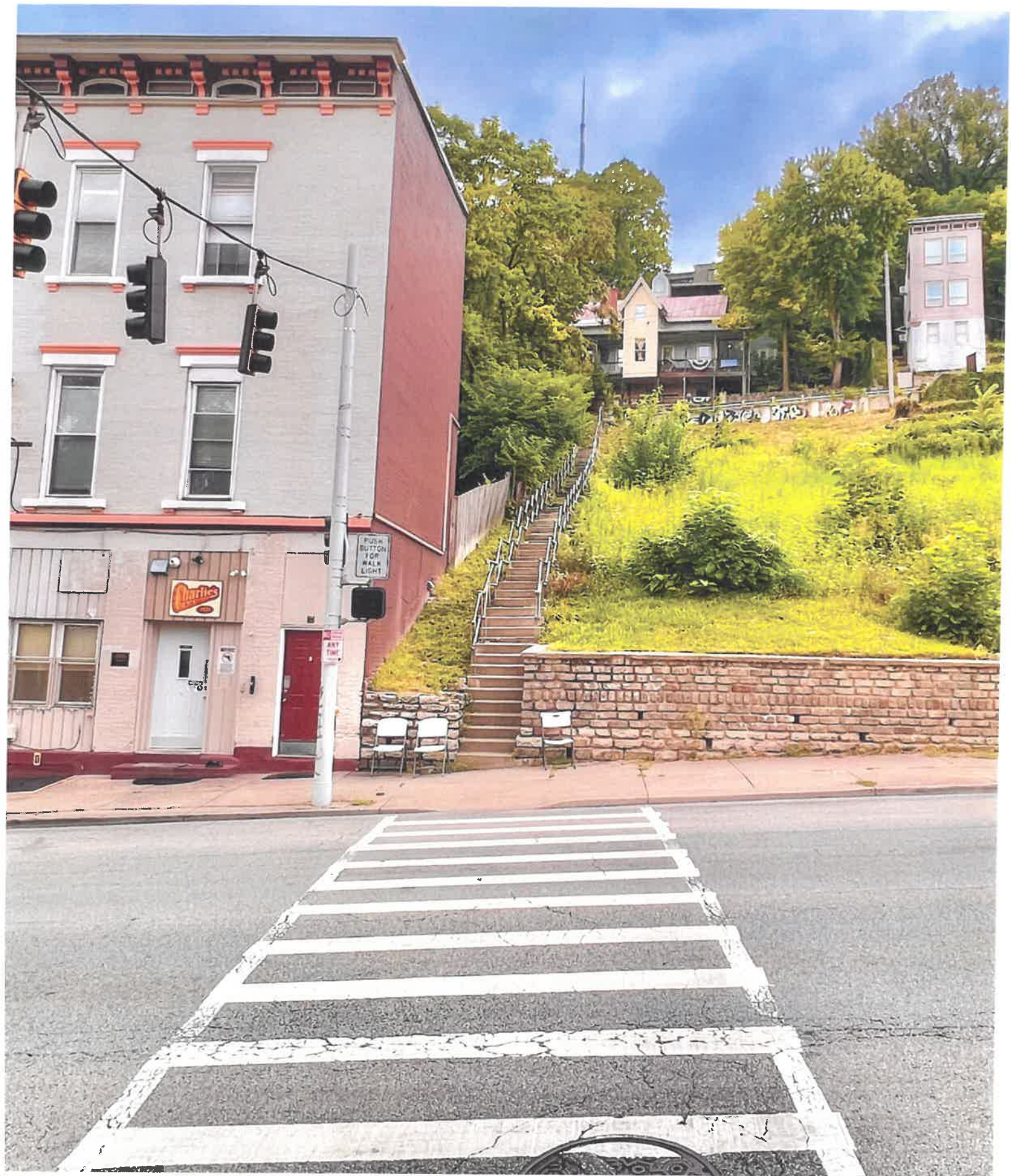


Katherine Keough-Jurs, FAICP, Director
Department of City Planning and Engagement

Step naming - Unnamed Steps to be named Fig Alley Steps in Mt. Auburn









NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

representing Clifton Heights | University Heights | Fairview

26 February 2023

Re: Fig Alley Steps

To Whom It May Concern:

The Clifton Heights-University Heights-Fairview (CUF) Neighborhood Association Board of Trustees voted to support the renaming of Unnamed Alley, between Vine Street and Van Lear Street, in Over the Rhine, to Fig Alley Steps.

Sincerely,

Jack Martin
President
CUF Neighborhood Association

March 17, 2023

Honorable City Planning Commission
Cincinnati, Ohio

SUBJECT: A report and recommendation on the *2023 Green Cincinnati Plan*.

BACKGROUND:

The City's sustainability plan, also known as the *Green Cincinnati Plan* ("Plan") was first approved in 2008 after a public process led by the City's Office of Environment and Sustainability (OES). Since 2008, there have been two additional updates, in 2013 and 2018. In May 2022, OES and a Steering Committee hosted the Kick-off of the most recent update of the plan at the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden. Councilmember Meeka Owens chaired the Steering Committee, which was also comprised of a diverse group of local business, faith, non-profit, and government leaders who built the Plan on three main topics: Sustainability, Equity, and Resilience.

In recent years, Cincinnati has seen a changing economy and environment, as have cities across the country and world. Planning for these realities is imperative, and the 2023 update to the Green Cincinnati Plan will be Cincinnati's roadmap to continue developing in the most sustainable, equitable, and resilient way possible as we grow into the future. The Plan lays out clear goals and recommendations that were crafted by our own Cincinnati community. The Plan has a commitment to equity and a focus on how local impacts of the climate crisis pose unique threats.

PUBLIC PLANNING PROCESS:

The *2023 Green Cincinnati Plan* was a City-wide and community-driven planning process guided by a Steering Committee, Equity Committee, Focus Area Subcommittees, Climate Safe Neighborhoods Community Cohorts, and Office of Environment and Sustainability staff. Focus Area Subcommittees narrowed in on eight (8) focus areas as they participated in the process of developing the Plan. There were over 40 public meetings that engaged approximately 1,600 residents, who contributed more than 3,000 total ideas. Green Umbrella and Groundwork Ohio River Valley assisted in the community engagement through facilitation and inclusion efforts as well. This intensive work resulted in the overall Vision of the Plan, along with the Goals, Strategies, and Actions for each of the Focus Areas.

PLAN OVERVIEW:

The *2023 Green Cincinnati Plan* begins with a letter from Mayor Aftab Pureval, followed by acknowledgments, an executive summary, what is the GCP, the Vision, Goals, Strategies, and Actions, and ends with an appendix and references. The Plan discusses the various existing conditions and issues, such as climate change and local impacts of the climate crisis.

There are three central pillars to the *2023 Green Cincinnati Plan*:

- 1) **Sustainability:** *"Sustainability means creating and maintaining conditions to meet the needs of present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It acknowledges that human survival and wellbeing depends on our natural environment."*
- 2) **Resilience:** *"Resilience is a tenacious ability for individuals and communities to collaboratively anticipate, accommodate, and positively adapt to thrive amidst changing climate conditions through greater social cohesion, strong partnerships, and access to resources."*
- 3) **Equity:** *"Equity is just and fair inclusion in which all can participate, prosper, and reach their full potential. In sustainability work, equity must be recognitional, procedural, distributional, restorational, and transformational."*

There are a total of eight key focus areas in the *2023 Green Cincinnati Plan*:

- 1) *Buildings and Energy*
- 2) *City Operations*
- 3) *Community Activation*
- 4) *Food*
- 5) *Mobility*
- 6) *Natural Environment*
- 7) *Resilience and Climate Adaptation*
- 8) *Zero Waste*

There are Goals with very specific Strategies and Priority Actions with detailed implementation steps listed within each of the Focus Areas. The overall Goals for each are:

Buildings and Energy

- Reduce building emissions 30% from 2021 levels by 2030.
- Electrify 20,000 households by 2030.
- Reduce the number of households experiencing energy poverty 10% from 2022 levels by 2028.
- Obtain 40% of electricity load from clean energy sources by 2030.

City Operations

- Center *Justice40* in the City budget and program design, ensuring at least 40% of spending benefits priority communities.
- Add 400 electric vehicles in the city fleet by 2028; 100% of employees have access to sustainable transportation options.
- Reach 100% Renewable Energy for city operations by 2035; 30% energy efficiency improvements by 2030.

Community Activation

- Achieve \$25 million in resources toward GCP priorities by 2028 with at least 40% benefiting priority communities.
- Ensure 100% of public schools have safe and accessible outdoor learning spaces by 2028.
- Achieve 4,000 individuals trained for green economy jobs by 2028 (800/year).
- Secure 25 priority community members equipped to co-lead the 2028 GCP refresh.

Food

- Increase local food consumption, distribution, and production by 100%.
- Eliminate food deserts in Cincinnati and create food sovereignty in all 52 neighborhoods.
- Implement 5 of the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (MUFPP) Recommendations by 2028.
- Decrease food going to the landfill 50% by 2030.
- Increase quantity of jobs in food and agriculture sectors by 20% by 2028.

Mobility

- Increase the number of passenger miles traveled using public transit 25% by 2030.

- Increase the utilization of zero emission vehicles in the city to 25% by 2030.
- Increase the number of residents within 0.25 mile of safe bike and pedestrian infrastructure 50% from 2022 levels by 2030.
- Build a policy framework that supports the creation of connected communities.

Natural Environment

- Maintain 40% urban tree canopy while expanding canopy to 40% residential, 25% mixed-use/industrial, and 10% Central Business District.
- Improve air quality so that Air Quality Index “Healthy Days” are increased by 30% by 2028.
- Increase access to greenspaces so that every resident has a greenspace within a .5 mile walk by 2028.

Resilience and Climate Adaptation

- Complete 25 green infrastructure projects by 2028 in extreme heat and overland flood vulnerable communities.
- Complete five climate adaptation and resilience projects per year by 2028 that create 10 green jobs per project.
- Revitalize 25 contaminated, industrial properties in neighborhoods of the Lower Mill Creek Valley by 2028.

Zero Waste

- Increase waste diversion 10% by 2028.
- Sustainably divert 50% of organics (including yard trimmings and food waste) from the landfill by 2028.
- Decrease litter and illegal dumping by 10% annually through 2028.

CONSISTENCY WITH PLAN CINCINNATI 2012:

The *2023 Green Cincinnati Plan* is consistent with *Plan Cincinnati* (2012) in many ways. Specifically, the Plan is consistent with all five Initiative Areas of Plan Cincinnati (Compete, Connect, Live, Sustain, and Collaborate). In the Compete Initiative Area, it is consistent with the Strategies to “build a streamlined and cohesive development process” (page 111) and “target investment to geographic areas where there is already economic activity” (page 115). In the Connect Initiative Area, it is consistent with the Strategies to “expand options for non-automotive travel” (page 130) and “plan, design, and implement a safe and sustainable transportation system” (135). In the Live Initiative Area, it is consistent with the Strategies to “become more walkable” (page 157), “support and stabilize our neighborhoods” (page 160), and “provide quality healthy housing for all income levels” (page 165). In the Sustain Initiative Area, it is consistent with the Strategies to “create a healthy environment and reduce energy consumption” (page 182), “decrease mortality and chronic and acute diseases” (page 187), “make sustainable access to and use of fresh, healthy food a priority in all neighborhoods” (page 190), “protect our natural resources” (page 194) and “preserve our built history” (page 197). In the Collaborate Initiative Area, it is consistent with the Strategies to “unite our communities” (page 210) and “speak in a unified voice with other entities to reach regional goals” (page 213).

Plan Cincinnati (2012) also recommends that the City of Cincinnati implement the Green Cincinnati Plan

from 2008 and its many recommendations. *Plan Cincinnati* generally recommended several of the goals in the *2023 Green Cincinnati Plan*, which were also recommended in the 2008, 2013, and 2018 Green Cincinnati Plans. *Plan Cincinnati* specifically stated to “continue to track progress of the Green Cincinnati Plan and regularly update the Project Implementation Dashboard to meet the goals of the Green Cincinnati Plan” (page 182). Notably, some of the other ways that recommendations in *Plan Cincinnati* directly align with the *2023 Green Cincinnati Plan* are to “complete the upgrade of the City’s fleet to more fuel efficient vehicles as directed in the Green Cincinnati Plan” of 2008 (page 182), “reduce emissions by 40 percent by 2030 (from the 2006 levels identified in the Green Cincinnati Plan)” (page 182), and “reduce the amount of electricity generation that comes from fossil fuels” (page 182). More examples include that *Plan Cincinnati* called to “improve air quality” and “improve water quality” (page 182) with specific actions steps to do so, “plant trees in areas with a lower-than-average tree canopy as defined by Urban Forestry” (page 184), “identify residential areas that are not located within ½ mile of a park, playground, or recreation area” (page 187), and “eliminate food deserts in Cincinnati” (page 190). In many instances, the *2023 Green Cincinnati Plan* is completely consistent with *Plan Cincinnati*, as *Plan Cincinnati* was designed to also be consistent with the original Green Cincinnati Plan from 2008.

ANALYSIS:

Having a GCP Steering Committee, eight Focus Area Subcommittees, an Equity Committee, Climate Safe Neighborhoods Community Cohorts, community engagement partners, community hosts, and consultants, the overall public planning process for the *2023 Green Cincinnati Plan* was very inclusive of the Cincinnati community. The wide variety of residents and stakeholders contributed to the overall planning process to make sure all voices were included and represented in the final GCP. The GCP reflects the values that Cincinnati wants to see as it progresses over the next few decades. The implementation of the Plan will help Cincinnati tackle the climate crisis by locally reducing our carbon emissions 50% by 2030 and 100% by 2050.

CITY PLANNING AND ENGAGEMENT’S ROLE IN IMPLEMENTATION:

The Department of City Planning and Engagement (DCPE) will continue to play a role in implementing certain recommendations found with the *2023 Green Cincinnati Plan*. In the following Priority Actions, the DCPE will play a lead role, major role, or supporting role in assisting with the implementation:

- *Built Environment:* Create incentives to encourage developers to electrify new buildings or install infrastructure so buildings can easily convert to all-electric in the future.
- *Built Environment:* Educate the community and corporate partners about tax credits and other programs available to assist with the transition to more energy efficient technologies.
- *Built Environment:* Implement and fund programs to install solar on low-income housing.
- *Built Environment:* Create programs and standards that will increase the energy efficiency of residential and multi-family buildings in order to decrease energy poverty.
- *Community Activation:* Support codification of climate justice and racial equity in City decision-making mechanisms.
- *Community Activation:* Continue to strengthen regional partnerships – like OKI and the Regional Climate Collaborative – to better coordinate, share, and build strategic advantage.
- *Food:* Restore & adapt underutilized spaces (vacant lots, indoor space & rooftops) for food production & Ecological benefits and promote regenerative agriculture best practices.
- *Food:* Increase options for food access within food desert neighborhoods, including but not limited to farmers’ markets, food co-ops, Community Supported Agriculture (CSAs), corner stores, buying clubs, mobile markets, community gardens, and food pantries.

- *Mobility*: Develop regional bus rapid transit routes along key corridors.
- *Mobility*: Create more neighborhood mobility networks and transit hubs where residents can connect by bike, walking, and bus.
- *Mobility*: Explore the expanded use of rail for regional transit.
- *Mobility*: Install public, streetside electric vehicle (EV) charging stations.
- *Mobility*: Develop policies to ensure that vehicle charging infrastructure is available to all residents including those in multi-family buildings and in homes without driveways.
- *Mobility*: Develop policies and incentives to ensure new construction is prepared for EV charging.
- *Mobility*: Continue to invest in complete streets to improve connectivity between neighborhoods.
- *Mobility*: Continue to improve sidewalk connectivity and maintenance in neighborhoods where connectivity/walkability is lacking.
- *Mobility*: Complete the CROWN bike network and connect it to neighborhoods.
- *Mobility*: Promote “15 Minute Neighborhoods” with mixed residential (including multi-family) and commercial zoning to increase transit connectivity as well as density and affordability.
- *Mobility*: Embrace zoning reform that increases density near transit, reduces or eliminates parking requirements across the city, and minimizes the use of surface parking lots.
- *Natural Environment*: Focus city tree planting in neighborhoods with highest heat island effect as measured in the Climate Equity Indicators Report or most recent data.
- *Natural Environment*: Implement policies that protect existing trees during development efforts.
- *Natural Environment*: Support and fund the development of natural corridors and tree barriers along streams and rivers, interstates and highways.
- *Natural Environment*: Create new greenspaces, including use of vacant properties and underused parking lots, ensuring that space will not be redeveloped.
- *Natural Environment*: Continue to improve infrastructure to increase walkability and access to greenspaces.
- *Natural Environment*: Implement policies which promote and protect public greenspaces in new developments.
- *Natural Environment*: Implement policies that restrict development in forested and/or biodiverse areas.
- *Resilience & Climate Adaptation*: Incentivize green infrastructure projects in communities with extreme heat and flood vulnerabilities.
- *Resilience & Climate Adaptation*: Create a “sponge city” with more and diverse green infrastructure in public and residential places including green roofs, bioswales, green medians, wetlands, parks, permeable pavements, and landscape gardens.
- *Resilience & Climate Adaptation*: Partner with communities to identify opportunities to address property damage caused by overland flooding and hillside instability.
- *Resilience & Climate Adaptation*: Continue to implement affordable and mixed-income housing strategies to stabilize communities.
- *Resilience & Climate Adaptation*: Protect landslide-prone hillsides and overland flood risk zones through land development policies such as Low Impact Development.
- *Resilience & Climate Adaptation*: Create “Recycling Valets”: workforce and small business development to provide recycling collection, monitoring, and education to multi-family dwellings, special events, and business districts with an emphasis on employing residents from priority neighborhoods.

RECOMMENDATION:

The staff of the Department of City Planning and Engagement recommends that the City Planning Commission take the following action:

APPROVE the *2023 Green Cincinnati Plan*.

Respectfully Submitted:



Alex Peppers, AICP, Deputy Director
Department of City Planning and Engagement

Approved:



Katherine Keough-Jurs, FAICP, Director
Department of City Planning and Engagement



Green Cincinnati Plan 2023



Word from the Mayor

Cincinnati,

As the state, national, and international communities work to tackle the causes and effects of global climate change, it is pivotal that we take local action to reduce emissions, conserve natural resources, adapt our infrastructure, and build a resilient Cincinnati for the next generation. After all, cities like ours are the perfect communities to bring climate action to life—big enough to understand real time impacts, yet nimble enough to get things done.

Cincinnati has long been recognized as a leader in the environmental field. We were named the nation's Most Sustainable City twice since 2018 by *Site Selection Magazine*, #2 for Urban Agriculture by *Best Cities for Urban Gardening*, and 4th out of the top 100 Cities with the Best Parks by the Trust for Public Lands. We have so much to be proud of, yet there is still plenty of work to do.

When it comes down to it, climate change is a risk multiplier—Black, brown, and low-income communities in our city experience the effects of climate change first and worst. Thus, this crisis presents a dual opportunity—a chance to build a new economy around clean energy and green technologies, create thousands of new jobs, and invigorate our city, while putting equity and the communities most impacted in the center of the frame. With decisive and intentional action, strong leadership, and creative solutions, we can build upon the progress we've made and establish ourselves as a climate change role model for cities around the world.

I am proud of what our City and residents have worked together to produce in the 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan that follows. As your Mayor, I join City leaders and our many partners in a shared commitment to doing what it takes to accomplish the vision set forth. I want to thank everyone who has helped prepare this Plan, and I call on all Cincinnatians to help us make the 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan a reality.

Thank you,



Mayor Aftab Pureval

Acknowledgements

The 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan (GCP) represents the hard work of many people, community groups, and organizations. Through a robust community engagement process, they shared their time, expertise, and thoughts. The GCP would not exist without them and the dedicated support of the City of Cincinnati's governmental leadership. We are grateful for everyone's participation and contributions and look forward to the implementation of the 2023 GCP.

CITY OF CINCINNATI MAYOR

Mayor Aftab Pureval

CITY OF CINCINNATI CITY COUNCIL

Vice Mayor Jan Michelle Lemon-Kearney

President Pro Tem Victoria Parks

Jeff Cramerding

Reggie Harris

Mark Jeffreys

Scotty Johnson

Liz Keating

Meeka Owens

Seth Walsh

CITY OF CINCINNATI CITY MANAGER

Sheryl M. M. Long

CITY OF CINCINNATI ASSISTANT CITY MANAGERS

Virginia Tallent

William "Billy" Weber

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Robert McCracken

Howard Miller

Amanda Testerman

Zoe Codd - Public Ally

Ellory Overcast - Public Ally

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Cincinnati City Council

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Sierra Club

Michelle Balz
Hamilton County R3Source

Kristin Baker
Local Initiatives Support Corporation

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Cintrifuse

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Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio

Crystal Courtney
Cincinnati Parks

Chad Day
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 212

Commissioner Denise Driehaus
Hamilton County Commissioner

Darryl Haley
SORTA

Jon Harmon
Cincinnati Mayor's Office

Dr. Victor Garcia
Children's Hospital Medical Center

Gregory Johnson
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Ohio Environmental Council

Wade Johnston
Tri-State Trails

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Lisa Zwack
Kroger

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Buildings & Energy

Chairperson: Sanyog Rathod
Equity Liaison: Flequer Vera
Subcommittee Facilitator: Rob McCracken

City Operations

Chairperson: Sarah Mostafa
Equity Liaison: Savannah Sullivan
Subcommittee Facilitator: Oliver Kroner

Community Activation

Chairperson: Kylie Johnson
Equity Liaison: Kelsey Hawkins-Johnson
Subcommittee Facilitator: Molly Robertshaw

Food

Chairperson: Domonique Peebles
Equity Liaison: Marisha Davis
Subcommittee Facilitator: Robin Henderson

Mobility

Chairperson: Pete Metz
Equity Liaison: Derrick Feagan
Subcommittee Facilitator: Rob McCracken

Natural Environment

Chairperson: Dave Schmitt
Equity Liaison: Margaux Roberts
Subcommittee Facilitator: Amanda Testerman

Resilience & Climate Adaptation

Chairperson: Tanner Yess
Equity Liaisons: Phillip Marshall & Tyeisha Cole
Subcommittee Facilitator: Howard Miller

Zero Waste

Chairperson: Michelle Balz
Equity Liaison: Darryl Franklin
Subcommittee Facilitators: Sue Magness & Jennifer Ballard

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Tanner Yess
Groundwork Ohio River Valley

Margaux Roberts
Groundwork Ohio River Valley

Tyeisha Cole
Green Umbrella

CLIMATE SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS COMMUNITY COHORTS

Beekman Corridor - Millvale, South Cumminsville, North Fairmount, South Fairmount, and English Woods

Bond Hill, Avondale & Paddock Hills

Camp Washington

Carthage

Over-the-Rhine and West End

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PARTNERS

Green Umbrella • Groundwork Ohio River Valley • CitizenLab

COMMUNITY HOSTS

Carthage Christian Church • Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden • Civic Garden Center • First Unitarian Church • McKie Community Center • Price Hill Library • Seven Hills Neighborhood Houses • Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio • Working in Neighborhoods

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Delivery Associates, Nutter Consulting

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Executive Summary

Climate Change is the Crisis of our Lifetime

Rising temperatures, more extreme storms, more flooding, decreased air quality, more pests and disease, increased migration...

We are facing the crisis of our lifetime. In real time. Climate change is happening *now*. The impacts of climate change are impacting Cincinnati *now*...and things are projected to get worse unless we take action now. The reality of our situation requires an all-hands-on-deck approach.

The 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan (GCP) is just such an approach, born out of one of the most extensive community engagement processes the City has ever undertaken. The GCP details how we will safeguard our natural resources, bolster our communities, and stitch together a social fabric that connects us to each other and the land we live on. The GCP delineates how we will rise to the challenge of climate change and how we will adapt in order to survive.

This is our chance to reinvent the future and save our home. There is a place for you in the action. We hope you will join us.

Local Impacts of Climate Crisis Pose Unique Threats

Cincinnati faces rising temperatures and more frequent and severe storms that will only intensify in the coming decades. The local impacts of climate change will have far-reaching health and safety consequences for residents.

Reducing carbon emissions is our best defense against climate change. In alignment with the latest science, Cincinnati is strengthening its climate targets. **With the adoption of this plan, Cincinnati commits to a 50% reduction in carbon emissions by 2030, and 100% carbon neutrality by 2050.**

However, climate change is more than a carbon issue. It's an equity issue. Priority communities—those situated in areas with fewer trees, degraded infrastructure, and with less access to funds and political capital—will disproportionately suffer the effects of climate change. The GCP centered equity in its structure, design, and development to ensure that the Goals, Strategies, and Actions benefit and equip priority communities.

Commitment to Equity

The Green Cincinnati Plan (GCP) is committed to equity - with an explicit focus on racial equity. We acknowledge Cincinnati's demographic makeup and our history of injustices. We believe that we will be better able to create an environment where all Cincinnatians can thrive by explicitly centering race in our efforts. The GCP will have an intentional focus on addressing the needs of those people and communities who experience elevated burdens from climate change and on an equitable distribution of benefits moving forward.

We commit to embedding racial equity throughout the engagement process, written product, and implementation of the Green Cincinnati Plan to ensure accountability and impact.

History and Overview of The Green Cincinnati Plan

The Green Cincinnati Plan has been the City's sustainability plan since 2008. Updated every five years (2013, 2018, and now 2023), the GCP has helped Cincinnati earn a reputation as an international leader in climate action. Since 2008, the actions outlined in the GCP have helped deliver a 36.6% reduction in the city's carbon emissions.

The 2023 GCP is organized into eight Focus Areas that articulate the City's Visions, Goals, Strategies, and Actions in response to the climate crisis.

- Buildings and Energy
- City Operations
- Community Activation
- Food
- Mobility
- Natural Environment
- Resilience & Climate Adaptation
- Zero Waste

These eight Focus Areas outline 40 high-impact strategies to reduce our carbon emissions 50% by 2030 and achieve 100% community-wide carbon neutrality by 2050. In addition, the Plan identifies 30 measurable goals to track our progress towards a more sustainable, equitable, and resilient Cincinnati. These strategies and goals arose as part of a community-wide, community-driven collaborative effort.

The three pillars of Sustainability, Equity, and Resilience serve as the foundation of the Green Cincinnati Plan. These pillars ensure that both the process of creating the GCP and the specific plans outlined in the GCP are grounded in carbon reduction, inclusive community building, and cross-cutting climate adaptation.

To help ensure that the Focus Areas fully embodied the Pillars, a trio of leaders oversaw each of the eight Focus Areas: a subject matter expert who chaired the group, an Equity Liaison who provided feedback and a clear community voice, and a facilitator from the City’s Office of Environment & Sustainability.

Unprecedented Community Engagement Shaped the 2023 GCP

The 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan is the product of a robust and extensive community engagement process.



Guided by a diverse Steering Committee and Equity Committee composed of local business, faith, nonprofit and government leaders, the Focus Area teams led six months of in-person and virtual meetings and surveys, gathering over 3,000 ideas from community members. Engaging Cincinnatians, especially those who live in the most affected and under-resourced communities, ensures residents most impacted by climate change have a voice in creating the vision for a Green Cincinnati. Green Umbrella and Groundwork Ohio River Valley supported this community endeavor by facilitating operations, engagement, and inclusion efforts.

Over 1,600 residents participated in more than 40 public meetings and their input and ideas resulted in the Vision, Goals, Strategies, and Actions for each of the GCP Focus Areas.

GCP Conclusions: Actions and Themes

After comprehensive brainstorming, comparing ideas across Focus Areas, and ranking and prioritizing suggestions, the content for each Focus Area was arranged into four sections:

- **Vision:** articulates the long-term aim of the Focus Area
- **Goals:** represent the benchmarks against which progress toward the Vision will be tracked
- **Strategies:** explain how the City and its partners will move to achieve the Goals
- **Priority Actions:** describe specific steps that can be taken to enact the Strategies

Across the eight Focus Areas of the 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan, several cross-cutting themes emerged:

- Creating jobs
- Prioritizing equity
- Emphasizing and building social cohesion
- Fostering public awareness and education
- Using the landmark federal funding opportunities

These themes cut across all eight Focus Areas as well as across the Pillars of Sustainability, Equity, and Resilience. They demonstrate how the community's vital voice helped shape the 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan and where the greatest common ground lies. Furthermore, the themes showcase the importance of integrating action at the grassroots level with communities in order to move the City forward toward a new future. With an influx of federal funds from the 2022 Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (*I/JA*) and Inflation Reduction Act (*IRA*), Cincinnati can implement the necessary actions to achieve the GCP's goals.

Join Us: Be the Seeds of Change

The 2023 GCP sets forth an ambitious vision for Cincinnati – a call to action. The flower motif, used throughout the plan, symbolizes this vision, and creates an overarching connection among the Pillars and Focus Areas. The flower, like this climate action plan, leads us to think of our natural connections, which are diverse, beautiful, cross-pollinating, delicate, rooted, and dependent on the ecosystem they are a part of.

To realize this vision, the City will lead by example, and partner with local “Champion” organizations to shape collective impact. Cincinnati is home to residents, businesses, nonprofits, and other organizations that are poised to bring this vision to life. We commit to work to bring Champions together, to elevate the needs of priority communities, and to track and share our collective progress along the way.

This is our chance to reinvent the future and save our home. There is a place for *you* in the action. We hope you join us. *We need you.* Be the seeds of change.



WHY IS CLIMATE CHANGE HAPPENING?

Exploiting fossil fuels for industrialization has spurred prosperity and economic growth over the last 150 years. However, the bill for that growth is now coming due. Increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere from the burning of fossil fuels are causing changes in our climate. As human population and consumer behaviors grow and require more resources, we must reckon with the consequences of burning fossil fuels to power our lives.

A growing collection of recent scientific reports has found that global climate emissions need to decline by 45% from 2010 levels by 2030 and reach net zero around 2050 to limit global warming to 1.5°C.¹ The local impacts of climate change in Cincinnati—rising heat, increased storms, pests, worsening impacts on health and agriculture, climate migration, increased costs to municipal government - require the City to act to mitigate Cincinnati’s impact on global warming.

Addressing carbon emissions will take a global effort. With 70% of emissions coming from urban areas, Cincinnati recognizes that cities play a unique role. Focused efforts to decarbonize locally will improve the quality of life, economic well-being, and long-term sustainability of our City and region.

Local Impacts of the Climate Crisis

Although climate change is a global issue, its impacts vary by region. While some parts of the globe, and the United States, will experience the effects of melting ice caps, rising sea levels, forest fires, and hurricanes, Cincinnati will not. Instead, rising temperatures and an increased frequency and severity of storms will cause major impacts which the City and its residents will have to face together.

RISING TEMPERATURES AND SEVERE STORMS

The earth is getting hotter and so is Cincinnati. Historically, Cincinnati experiences about 30 days a year with a heat index over 90°F. By midcentury, it will be 79 days.² The average daily temperature is projected to be more than 10°F hotter.³

While many parts of the world are experiencing drought, Cincinnati is actually experiencing more storms. Annual precipitation in the Midwest has increased 5-10% since 1950.⁴ By mid to late century, we will experience around a 74% increase in precipitation on a regular basis.⁵ Not only will the Cincinnati region see more storms, the storms will be more severe.



Figure 1 <https://flavorverse.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Fun-Free-Things-to-the-Washington-Park-with-Kids.jpg>

As Cincinnati’s climate changes, there will be impacts to our ecosystem, infrastructure, and the health and well-being of residents.

HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

An increase in the number of dangerously hot days will lead to an increase in heat-related illnesses, including heat rash and cramps, and potentially fatal illnesses like asthma and heat stroke. Similarly, extreme temperatures put additional pressures on hospitals, emergency rooms, and medical services.

Illnesses carried by ticks, mosquitos, and other vectors are also expected to increase as the warming weather allows these carriers to move into new geographic regions, expanding their range. Infection rates for Lyme disease (spread by ticks) could rise, and other viruses, like West Nile, could appear in the local mosquito population.⁶

Climate change will also impact air quality. In Cincinnati, major sources of poor air quality include ozone and small particulate matter (PM 2.5). Hot sunny days with stagnant air accelerate ground-level ozone production, which can increase the amount of particulate matter present. Exposure to these pollutants can cause or exacerbate health conditions like respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, premature deaths, aggravated asthma, and other chronic illnesses.⁷

Increasing storms and flooding can also lead to adverse health effects, especially in areas where sewer and water infrastructure is inadequate. Flooding from storms can cause sewer back-ups into homes and businesses, and water intrusion into buildings, resulting in increased exposure to pathogens and illness.⁸ Flooded homes can cause sleeplessness, anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder.⁹

IMPACT TO INFRASTRUCTURE

Heavy storms caused by climate change can also impact infrastructure. In 2019, large rain events caused hillside instability along Columbia Parkway, requiring a \$17.6 million 2-year stabilization project to repair the damage and prevent future landslides.¹⁰



Figure 2 <https://pixels.com/featured/sunset-storm-over-cincinnati-mountain-dreams.html>

Large rain events also affect the quality of water in the region. Like many older cities, Cincinnati has a combined storm-sewer system that was not designed to manage the volume of water generated during the kinds of extreme storms we are experiencing now.

When the volume of water exceeds the capacity of the storm-sewer system, the water is evacuated into combined storm sewer overflows (CSOs), resulting in stormwater and raw sewage entering the region's water ways. According to estimates, approximately 7.1 billion gallons of combined sewage overflow in a typical year are released into area waterways.¹¹ While improvements to the region's sewer system have controlled and removed over 150 CSOs, the number of CSO occurrences per year has remained constant over the past decade due to increased storm events.

AGRICULTURAL DISRUPTIONS

As increased heat causes local waterways to evaporate, this decrease in water supply will negatively impact agricultural productivity.

Crop loss is one of the chronic threats to agriculture from climate change in the Greater Cincinnati Area. Rising temperatures are expected to extend the frost-free season 20 days by mid-century.¹² While this might increase crop yield, hotter summers and periods of drought are expected to lead to a 5-25% decline in corn and soybean crop yields by mid-century.

Moreover, an increase in average winter temperatures will affect the freeze-thaw cycle of the soil. This disruption can lead to challenges like flooding, increased insect and weed populations, and loss of native species that require colder temperatures to germinate¹³. Furthermore, the increase of pests and weeds from rising temperatures and the extended growing season can reduce yields, requiring the use of more adaptive farming techniques.¹⁴

The region is also expected to become more humid. This increase in high air moisture allows for many agricultural pests and pathogens to flourish, competing with crops and decreasing grain storage. These changes can all result in major economic output losses for farmers and require quick action to adapt farming techniques.

CLIMATE MIGRATION

Extreme heat, more frequent large flood events, forest fires, hurricanes, and other natural disasters are displacing people from their communities. One example of this is the extreme floods that impacted 13 counties in eastern Kentucky in July 2022. The flooding destroyed homes and infrastructure, required over \$154.6 million for recovery, and displaced people from their homes for months.¹⁵

Cities in the Midwest are expected to receive climate migration from communities impacted by sea level rise and other natural disasters.¹⁶ As a large city within this region, Cincinnati must develop and prepare the infrastructure and economy to be resilient to climate change—as well as prepare to receive those who might relocate to the City out of necessity. Preparing for in-migration requires improving infrastructure to serve a larger, more diverse population, increasing housing availability—especially affordable housing and multi-family housing—and providing transportation improvements for a growing city.

CLIMATE CHANGE IS AN EQUITY ISSUE AND A RISK-MULTIPLIER

Not all residents and neighborhoods of Cincinnati will be equally impacted by climate change. In this way, the climate crisis is first and foremost an equity issue.

A 2020 study documented the Urban Heat Island Effect in Cincinnati and found that areas with lower levels of tree canopy and higher levels of impervious surfaces—such as parking lots and roads—have higher surface temperatures, sometimes up to 12°F higher.¹⁷ This means that not all of the city’s 52 neighborhoods will experience the impact of rising temperatures equally.

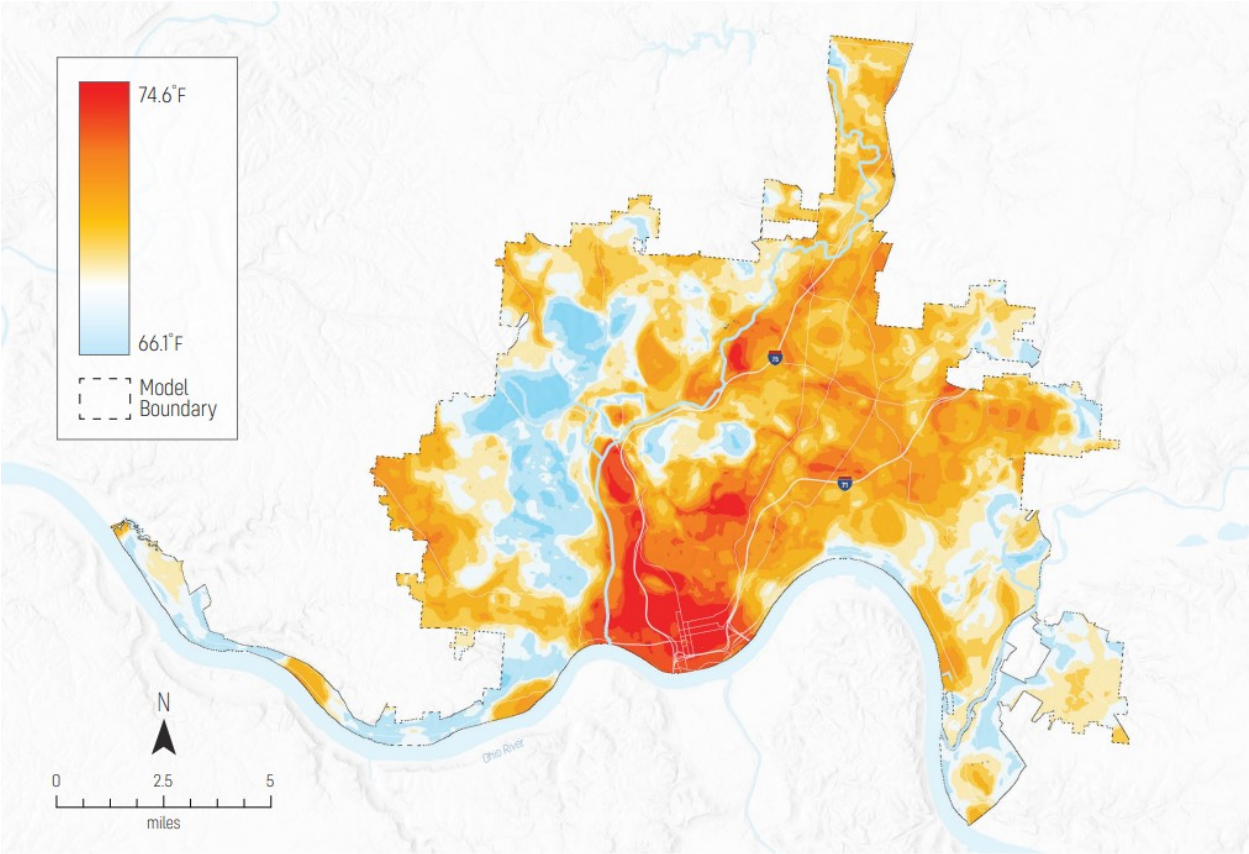


Figure 3A Map of the Urban Heat Island Effect measured in Cincinnati.

The [2020 Heat Watch Cincinnati](#) study identified the neighborhoods in Cincinnati with the greatest urban heat island exposure. These include predominately low-income communities of color that were historically red-lined and where residents have been systematically denied access to financial services.¹⁸ These neighborhoods will feel the effects of rising temperatures more dramatically, and these effects will be compounded for residents in housing where air conditioning is not available.

Not only will the impacts of climate change not be equally distributed throughout Cincinnati, but the adverse health effects of climate change will also not be distributed equally. Vulnerable populations will be more likely to face worsening health conditions. This includes older adults, children, and those living in risk-prone areas which are disproportionately affected by heat, flooding, and poor air quality. These populations are often communities of color and low-income.¹⁹

Similarly, with storms, these issues do not impact residents equally. The effects of storms more severely impact residents in neighborhoods on hillsides and in valleys.

In fact, the climate crisis acts as a risk-multiplier, making existing problems worse. When considering poverty (including energy poverty), homelessness, and public health issues, some members of our community are at higher risk from the impacts of climate change. The nature of these risks and the way they present in our communities is a growing field of research, shaping the way cities design climate solutions to protect the most vulnerable populations.²⁰

THE COST OF INACTION

Given how rising temperatures and increased storms will impact the City, it is important to allocate the appropriate resources to address these impacts. In 2022, the Ohio Environmental Council, Power A Clean Future Ohio, and Scioto Analysis published the report “The Bill is Coming Due: Calculating the Financial Cost of Climate Change to Ohio’s Local Governments.” This report documents how Ohio cities could spend an additional \$1.8 to \$5.9 billion per year by 2050 to manage the effects of climate change.²¹

The report reviewed 10 climate impacts on municipal spending: air conditioning installation, electrical costs, cool roofing, cooling centers, road repair, drinking water treatment, storm recovery, power lines, stormwater management, and elevating roads. These costs will not only burden the municipalities, but also their residents and taxpayers. Cincinnati must act now to prepare the infrastructure for climate change.

What Is the Green Cincinnati Plan?

The Green Cincinnati Plan (GCP) is a community vision to address climate change and build a more sustainable, equitable, and resilient future. The GCP was first introduced in 2008 and has become a central tenet of city planning. As science, politics, and technology have evolved, the City has updated the GCP every five years (2008, 2013, 2018).

Building on the successes of the previous plans, the City of Cincinnati is proud to present the 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan. For the first time ever, this plan charts a path to carbon neutrality, marking the most ambitious climate action plan in Cincinnati’s history. The Plan focuses on the intersectional environmental systems that shape our lives, offering near-term steps toward long-term transformational goals.

The Green Cincinnati Plan reflects many aspects of the award-winning [Plan Cincinnati](#)²²—particularly three of Plan Cincinnati’s five initiative areas—Sustain, Connect and Compete. The Green Cincinnati Plan builds on Plan Cincinnati to create an implementation framework for portions of these initiatives. The City and community partners will work with communities to incorporate the Vision, Goals, Strategies, and Actions outlined in this document in developing neighborhood plans. neighborhood plans.



Green Cincinnati Plan Sustainability Milestones

The GCP has served as a rallying call for individuals and organizations to come together to take strategic action. Over the years, this collaboration has produced a growing momentum with many notable accomplishments:

2006

- The City of Cincinnati Office of Environmental Quality is formed.

2007

- LEED Tax Abatement introduced to encourage high-performance buildings

2008

- Cincinnati adopted the 2008 Green Cincinnati Plan as a roadmap for how Cincinnati can be a national leader in addressing global climate change and make Cincinnati a healthier place to live.

2009

- Free Parking for electric vehicles at all City parking meters, and some City garages.
- Phase 1 of Energy Efficiency Retrofits in City Buildings. In 3 phases, the City completed deep retrofits on more than 60 buildings, reducing the City's energy bills by more than \$2 million per year.
- The City's Urban Agriculture Program begins, with six city-owned parcels being leased for \$1 each

2010

- Enhanced curbside recycling offering new, larger recycling carts.

2011

- Green Umbrella restructured as regional sustainability alliance, becoming a backbone organization for sustainability efforts in the region.
- Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden installs 1.5 mW solar canopy over parking lot.



Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden solar canopy

2012

- 100% Renewable Electricity - The City of Cincinnati completed the "electricity aggregation" process in 2012, buying electricity in bulk on behalf of approximately 60,000 residential and small commercial accounts.
- Car Sharing - Zipcar became Cincinnati's first car sharing company, with vehicles located in Downtown and Over-The-Rhine.
- Cincinnati adopted a new comprehensive plan, called Plan Cincinnati, and one of the five primary initiatives at the core of the plan is to "Sustain - Steward resources and ensure long term viability."
- Solar Power Purchase Agreement — Installed solar panels on 3 City facilities: College Hill Rec Center, Beekman Garage, and One-Stop Permit Center.

2013

- 2013 Green Cincinnati Plan published
- Lick Run Greenway project launched in South Fairmount to reduce combined sewer overflows (CSOs) into the Mill Creek

2014

- Red Bike bikeshare launched in Downtown and Uptown neighborhoods

2015

- Cincinnati District 3 police station- Built as a sustainable, energy efficient and environmentally friendly facility meeting LEED Platinum status, the new station is designed to generate as much energy as it consumes.
- Expansion of the Red Bike system, which increased the size from 35 stations to 50 stations.
- First Annual Midwest Regional Sustainability Summit- attended by more than 300 individuals representing 150 businesses and organizations.
- The Greater Cincinnati Regional Food Policy Council is formed to address food access & consumption, production & land use, distribution and assessment, planning & zoning

2016

- Electric Vehicle Chargers- OES brokered resources from Nissan and Clean Fuels Ohio to obtain electric vehicle DC fast chargers at 5 locations in Cincinnati.
- Natural Gas Aggregation- the City entered a new Natural Gas Aggregation Contract with Constellation Natural Gas as the provider. Approximately 46,000 of 69,000 eligible households were purchasing their natural gas through this program.
- Opening of Cincinnati Bell Connector—The streetcar operates on a 3.6-mile loop
- Solarize Program launches, accelerating the pace of residential solar installations.
- The first Food Waste Forum convenes 150 stakeholders to create a regional food waste action plan

2017

- Curbside textile recycling- Residents are now able to recycle clothing, textiles and housewares just as easy as they can recycle other items.
- Cincinnati signs a contract to provide 100% green energy to City facilities.
- Cincinnati becomes the 1st aggregation program in the US to offer 100% green energy for both electricity and natural gas.
- Mayor Cranley signs the Compact of Mayors- a global agreement of 648 cities that have agreed to measure emissions and climate risk and publicly report findings.
- Mayor Cranley commits Cincinnati to 100% Renewable energy by 2035

2018

- 2018 Green Cincinnati Plan adopted by City Council
- Cincinnati selected for the American Cities Climate Challenge, infusing money and technical support into accelerating climate strategies

2019

- 100 MW Solar PPA contract signed
- Warm Up Cincy launched to address energy poverty in multi-family buildings

2020

- Issue 7 Bus levy passes, significantly increasing funding for regional public transit

2021

- Climate Safe Neighborhoods launches, starting neighborhood-scale climate resilience planning
- Contract signed for LED lighting upgrades to 94 facilities and the installation of 1.34 MW of solar across 9 facilities
- Lick Run Greenway project completed - a bioengineered surface stream and separated stormwater sewer which eliminates approximately 800 million gallons annually of combined sewer overflows into the Mill Creek
- Cincinnati secures USDA funding to start community composting <500 sq ft. at various neighborhood sites

2022

- Climate, Environment & Infrastructure Committee becomes the first climate-focused committee in City Council history
- Cincinnati signs the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact, and is awarded Special Mention for food waste prevention efforts
- Complete Streets policy passed by City Council
- Cincinnati secures grant to launch biochar program to handle Park's wood debris
- Inaugural Equity Committee formed to shape the 2023 GCP Vision, Goals, & Strategies and establish a formal Equity Commitment and strategic engagement metrics
- OES secures a mini-grant to fund frontline community involvement and leadership within the 2023 GCP Equity Committee

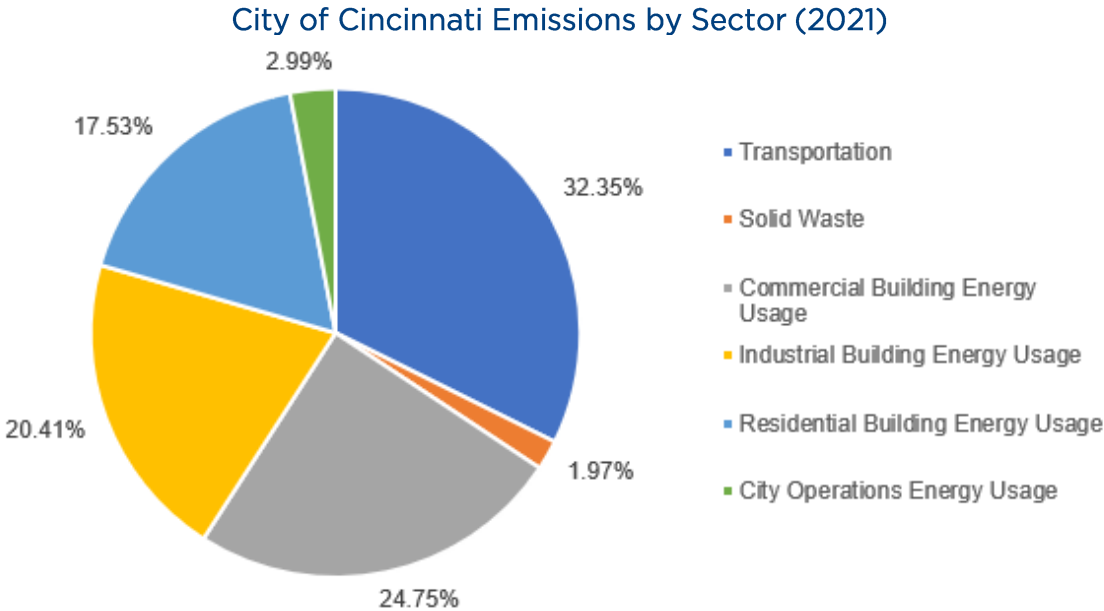
2023

Carbon Emissions

To address the climate crisis, the global community is organizing to drastically reduce carbon emissions around the globe. As a city, Cincinnati is working to address carbon emissions at home. Cincinnati first adopted carbon reduction goals in the 2008 Green Cincinnati Plan, establishing a commitment toward an 80% reduction in carbon emissions by 2050, from a 2006 baseline. In order to reduce emissions, it is critical to understand where local emissions are coming from.

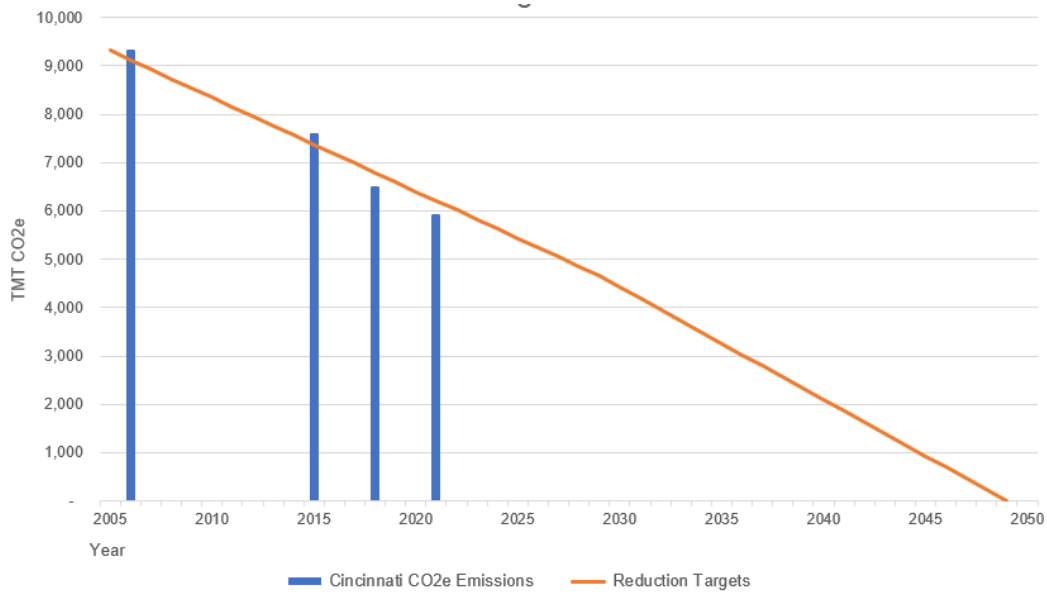
Community Emissions Inventory

The Office of Environment & Sustainability models greenhouse gas emissions produced by Cincinnati over the course of a year to measure the climate impact of the city. The Cincinnati Community Emissions Inventory quantifies the amount of carbon emissions from different sources within the city. The inventory is broken down into three major components: stationary energy sources (buildings, factories, etc.), transportation, and waste. Of these three, stationary sources account for approximately 66% of all emissions. Focusing on ways to improve the energy efficiency of stationary sources and to acquire clean sources of power will be critical to reducing emissions citywide.



Since 2008, the actions set forth by the GCP have helped the city make significant progress toward its carbon reduction goals. Cincinnati's 2021 community emissions inventory estimates total community-wide emissions of 5.9 MMT CO₂e (million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent), representing a 36.6% decrease from the 2006 baseline of 9.3 MMT CO₂e. While there have been reductions across each of the major categories, energy efficiency and renewable energy projects to stationary energy sources (buildings, factories, etc.) have been the driving force behind the reductions. The current trajectory of carbon emissions reductions puts the city on track to meet its decarbonization commitments.

Cincinnati CO₂e Reduction Trends



ClimateView – Making climate data accessible and interactive

The City of Cincinnati is using the *ClimateView* platform to assist in carbon emissions measurement, tracking and forecasting. The platform allows the City to identify the optimal pathways to net zero by highlighting which sectors are producing emissions, exploring different emission reduction scenarios, and understanding the impacts different actions have on emissions. Most importantly, ClimateView is intended to allow residents and businesses to track the City's progress by bringing the Green Cincinnati Plan to life through interactive emissions reports and status updates on the plan's priority actions.



Moving forward toward Carbon Neutrality

The 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan marks a departure from the carbon goals of the past. With recent developments in the science of climate change, it has become apparent that the world will need to accelerate decarbonization. **With the adoption of this plan, Cincinnati commits to 50% reduction in carbon emissions by 2030, and 100% community-wide carbon neutrality by 2050.**

The City of Cincinnati Government is committed to leading by example. But it is important to note that the government accounts for less than 4% of the emissions of Cincinnati. To achieve carbon neutrality will require all hands on deck, with concerted effort from individuals and institutions.

With a vision of a zero carbon future, this climate action plan identifies the near-term steps Cincinnati must take to achieve this aspirational goal. **In many ways, this plan is a roadmap for re-inventing a city—re-inventing the way we construct our buildings, the way we power our homes, the way we get around, and the way we interact with and honor nature.**

A People-Centered Plan

People are at the center of this plan. Reinvention gives the opportunity to consider the “design-flaws” of the way things were done in the past. In designing a human-centered climate action plan, the community was challenged to define the core values on which the plan is built.

Central Pillars of the Green Cincinnati Plan



The Green Cincinnati Plan (GCP) Steering Committee determined that the 2023 GCP would have three central pillars: Sustainability, Equity, and Resilience. These three important concepts are closely related and have significant implications for individuals, communities, and the natural world. The pillars serve as central tenets, upon which the goals, strategies, and actions of the 2023 GCP are built. A deeper explanation of each of these pillars follows below.

Sustainability

2023 GCP Definition: Sustainability means creating and maintaining conditions to meet the needs of present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It acknowledges that human survival and well-being depends on our natural environment.

Sustainability is the practice of preserving natural resources and ecosystems for the benefit of current and future generations. It involves making decisions and taking actions that minimize the negative impact of human activities on the environment, while also ensuring that the needs of society are met. Ultimately, the goal of environmental sustainability is to create a healthy, balanced, and maintainable relationship between humans and the natural world.

Currently, our culture of extraction threatens sustainability. We take and take and take from the natural environment without replacing or regenerating the extracted resources. The 2023 GCP has many goals, strategies, and actions that seek to restore and regenerate our environment, shift to renewable sources of energy, and eliminate the carbon pollution that is driving climate disruption.

Examples of Sustainability Aligned Strategies in the Green Cincinnati Plan

- Decrease energy usage in new and existing buildings through the adoption of energy efficiency program
- Provide residents and businesses with continual access to power from clean energy sources
- Amplify the workforce to meet the demands of the green economy
- Improve bike and pedestrian connectivity so that residents can safely access the places they need to go
- Improve preservation, health, and maintenance of trees in existing urban canopy
- Divert food waste through prevention, reuse/recovery, and composting

Resilience

2023 GCP Definition: Resilience is a tenacious ability for individuals and communities to collaboratively anticipate, accommodate, and positively adapt to thrive amidst changing climate conditions through greater social cohesion, strong partnerships, and access to resources.

Resilience is the capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses, and systems within a city to survive, adapt, and grow—no matter what kinds of challenges and threats they face. In the context of climate change, resilience is like the triage and emergency room of the sustainability building. It measures a community’s ability to prepare for and adapt to climate hazards and recover quickly from climate-related disasters. Given this importance, Resilience is both a foundational pillar and the subject of Focus Area for the 2023 GCP.

To increase its own resilience, Cincinnati can empower communities to identify the climate threats unique to them and prepare for possible shocks or disasters. When we work to build resilience in our neighborhoods, we deepen relationships and connections, creating positive social cohesion that spans both the built and natural environments. In other words, people are collaborating with the natural environment rather than simply interacting with it.

In the coming decades, building resilience will be essential urban policy as well as a smart investment for all cities, including Cincinnati. Because resilient cities can better handle natural and human-made disasters, they can protect human life, absorbing the impact of economic, environmental, and social hazards. By taking steps to deepen Cincinnati’s own resilience, we are making the city a healthier, more attractive place to live and do business.

Examples of Resilience Aligned Actions in the Green Cincinnati Plan

- Decrease sewer backups, sewer overflows, and overland flooding (aka flash flooding) by supporting community-wide sewer infrastructure improvements and prioritizing projects in priority communities.
- Establish prioritized facilities as “Resilience Hubs” - centers that foster community connection and preparedness during emergencies.
- Incentivize green infrastructure projects in communities with extreme heat and flood vulnerabilities.
- Conduct inventories, assessments, and clean-ups of contaminated industrial sites, referred to as brownfields, aligned with both community revitalization priorities and city planned reuse.
- Implement affordable housing strategies to stabilize communities.

Equity

2023 GCP Definition: Equity is just and fair inclusion in which all can participate, prosper, and reach their full potential. In sustainability work, equity must be recognitional, procedural, distributional, restorational, and transformational.

Climate change impacts communities of color and other vulnerable populations in disproportionate ways. For example, bad air quality leads to higher asthma rates, degraded infrastructure leads to flooding and sewer backups, and fewer trees and more pavement lead to higher and more unhealthy temperatures. These factors are more prevalent in communities of color and other vulnerable frontline neighborhoods.

By centering equity in climate action planning, using tools like the [2021 Cincinnati Climate Equity Indicators Report](#)²³, we can better reduce the burden of climate events and reallocate the benefits of taking action. To place equity firmly at the center, however, we must purposefully engage with and invest in the people and communities most impacted by environmental injustice. In addition, the City recommends an approach called “targeted universalism” setting universal goals from which all groups benefit yet achieving these goals through targeted approaches. Intentionally prioritizing equity at every stage gives us a better chance of disrupting these cycles of injustice. Supported by the GCP Equity Framework (See Appendix), Cincinnati is on a journey toward more equitable climate action.

“A community’s success or failure in preparing for the impacts of climate change will be measured by how it is able to address the needs of those on the frontlines of impacts and those already suffering from a range of challenges, including lack of economic opportunity, racism, and pollution.”

- Georgetown Climate Center

Examples of Equity Aligned Strategies in the Green Cincinnati Plan

- Reduce energy costs for tenants and homeowners experiencing energy poverty to improve the affordability of housing
- Utilize a variety of systems to create equitable access to nutritious, affordable food in every neighborhood, prioritizing communities that need it most and creating food sovereignty
- Provide reliable public transportation options and an improved rider experience to connect residents to the places where they need to go
- Increase air quality studies and education and reduce pollution from air emissions
- Reduce extreme heat, overland flooding, landslides, and water pollution vulnerabilities by incentivizing, improving, and increasing green infrastructure

A Word from the Equity Committee Chair

It has been my honor to serve as the Equity Committee Chair for the Green Cincinnati Plan. One of the greatest challenges facing our community is climate change. Often when we talk about climate change the language we use is not accessible to everyone and it doesn't center those most impacted. Like other issues in our community, climate impacts are not created equally or distributed equally, many of them disproportionately impact our Black and Brown communities, and communities with low wealth. It is important that we are deliberate about reducing those impacts.

What excites me most about the 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan is the intentionality of embedding equity into the process and plan with an explicit focus on racial equity.

It is up to all of us to hold our community accountable for how the plan is developed and implemented. Every step of the way it will be important to assess who will benefit and who will be burdened by the decisions we make. We see this intentional focus from the federal government with Justice40 and it is our time as a community to put this commitment into practice through implementation and budgetary process.

Accountability lies with all of us so the next time you are asked to be involved in any effort, think about who will benefit from this decision, who will be burdened by this decision and are those most impacted not only at the table but are they leading and deciding what is best for their community. The choice is ours, as a city we can do the hard work now or we can suffer the consequences of having the same patterns repeated later, causing further harm to our communities.

If we want to see real change, we have to do things differently. Doing things differently is being intentional about creating a community-driven process for climate action planning. Investing in and supporting the leadership, knowledge, and expertise of those most impacted by any aspects of climate change will be needed to create community solutions that work.

Ashlee Young

GCP Equity Committee Chair

Vice President of Policy & Engagement, Interact for Health

Operationalizing Equity

Moving from equity as a concept described in the pillar to real-life application is neither simple, nor easy, but it is imperative. As a step toward integration, basic building blocks of common language, commitment, strategy and tools are found below.

As a public statement of collective commitment to the integration of equity, the GCP Steering Committee adopted the following Equity Commitment Statement.

Equity Commitment

The Green Cincinnati Plan (GCP) is committed to equity - with an explicit focus on racial equity. We acknowledge Cincinnati's demographic makeup and our history of injustices. We believe that we will be better able to create an environment where all Cincinnatians can thrive by explicitly centering race in our efforts. The GCP will have an intentional focus on addressing the needs of those people and communities who experience elevated burdens from climate change and on an equitable distribution of benefits moving forward. We commit to embedding racial equity throughout the engagement process, written product, and implementation of the Green Cincinnati Plan to ensure accountability and impact.

This statement and the collective honesty and buy-in that it embodies will continue to guide and inform all involved in the Green Cincinnati Plan moving forward.

Common Language

As discussed in Equity Pillar above and approved by the Steering Committee, the Green Cincinnati Plan shares the following foundational definitions of equity:

Equity—just and fair inclusion in which all can participate, prosper, and reach their full potential. In sustainability work, equity must be recognitional, procedural, distributional, restorational, and transformational.

Racial Equity—an outcome in which “race no longer determines one’s socioeconomic outcomes. As a process, we apply racial equity when those most impacted by structural racial inequity” can fully participate in the development of “institutional policies and practices that impact their lives”

There are five types of equity as identified in the GCP's definition:

1. **Recognitional equity** identifies and acknowledges injustices affecting specific populations that various institutions have created, including government
2. **Procedural equity** addresses power structures and access to participation in decision-making. A key to this is ensuring equitable, inclusive, and meaningful engagement and asking how our engagement shifts power, builds trust, and ensures accountability, both structurally and intergenerationally.
3. **Distributional equity** addresses the distribution of burdens and benefits and deploys targeted resources to reduce inequities across different populations
4. **Restorational equity** makes commitments to correct past harms and facilitate repair including revitalizing degraded relationships, land, and other resources
5. **Transformational equity** addresses underlying structural conditions that cause social and racial injustices while cultivating accountability, reducing harm, and preventing future unintended consequences

As the City works to operationalize the climate equity strategies of the GCP, a common language and approach to prioritizing communities hit first and worst by the climate crisis is needed. In climate equity work, communities are referred to by many different terms - frontline, disadvantaged, under-resourced, minority, low-income, and more. In this Plan, the term "Priority Communities" is used to communicate the essence of these various terms and to signal the importance of elevating these communities' needs based on a nuanced approach that is supported by both data and lived experience.

Priority Communities—those communities where climate mitigation and efforts to close gaps are likely to be most impactful due to historic and systematic discrimination, vulnerability to climate related events and disasters, and capacity to adapt to these challenges.

The criteria and methods for determining prioritization of communities, as defined, will vary based on the strategy being implemented, the focus of the implementing partner, and other factors. Both data and lived experience must be considered. Tools like the [Climate Equity Indicators Report](#)²⁴ and others included in The GCP Equity Framework (See Appendix) provides an expanded set of tools and guidance for determining Priority Communities in implementation.

"Like other issues in our community, climate impacts are not created equally or distributed equally, many of them disproportionately impact our Black and Brown communities, and communities with low wealth. It is important that we are deliberate about reducing those impacts."

- Ashlee Young, GCP Equity Committee Chair

Co-Creating a Community Vision – climate action through inclusive community engagement

We live during a critical moment in human history. We have created a problem that will require us to come together to deliver the transformational change the moment requires. This Plan is a community vision born from the many voices who have contributed their ideas and energy.

Intentionally Inclusive Community Engagement

In many ways, process is as important as product. With the foundational pillars of sustainability, equity, and resilience in place, the Steering Committee co-designed a community engagement process to collect input from residents and partner organizations.



The process was launched with a kickoff event in May of 2022 at the Cincinnati Zoo. More than 300 residents attended to give shape to the plan, provide suggestions, and identify key community organizations who should be involved.

The effort was informed by an Equity Committee, charged with creating an Equity Framework to guide the process and eventually implementation.

Eight subcommittees focused on developing climate action plans in the following areas:

- Buildings & Energy
- City Operations
- Community Activation
- Food
- Mobility
- Natural Environment
- Resilience & Climate Adaptation
- Zero Waste

From June to December of 2022, each of the subcommittees held a series of in-person and virtual engagement opportunities. The Focus Area Subcommittees were convened by a trio of leaders made up of a subject matter expert as Chair, an Equity Liaison to ensure community voice, and an OES facilitator providing structure and support. The public was invited to join Subcommittees—hundreds of individuals responded and actively participated throughout the summer and fall of 2022. The directive was to engage and include the community at every step in the Plan’s formation. To meet that challenge, each Focus Area team held three public input meetings. In all, hundreds of residents participated in 40+ public meetings and contributed over 3,000 ideas for sustainable action resulting in the vision, goals, strategies, and actions in the Focus Area section of this Plan.



Virtual Engagement Citizen Survey

Throughout the process, the Office of Environment and Sustainability and partners also provided virtual engagement options primarily via a survey of local community members around their perceptions around the impacts of climate change and recommended actions. These ideas formed the themes considered in each Focus Area. Over 1,000 residents responded, representing 50 out of 52 of Cincinnati’s neighborhoods. Overall, 92% of Cincinnatians think climate change is already affecting our city, and 77% agree that it is not affecting all residents equally.

Weaving In Equity

From the launch of the 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan process, there was intentionality placed on equity as a design principle. The Steering Committee and Focus Area Subcommittee Chairs represented a diversity of perspectives reflective of Cincinnati's demographics. To help weave equity throughout the plan, each subcommittee was supported with an Equity Liaison, a member of the Equity Committee. These individuals served as a member of the leadership "trio" of each focus area during the community engagement to create space for valuable, and too many times unheard perspectives. In these two primary ways, people of diverse backgrounds were intentionally included and served as the leaders and decision-makers.



In addition to the integration into the leadership structure, the community engagement strategy took an explicitly accessible and placed-based approach with a focus on those communities experiencing the brunt of the impacts of climate change. All GCP community meetings were held in priority communities and at partners' facilities accessible by public transit. Surveys were made available in both virtual and paper formats as well as translated into Spanish.

The Climate Safe Community Series, an adaptation of the Climate Safe Neighborhoods effort, allowed Groundwork Ohio River Valley, Green Umbrella, and the Office of Environment & Sustainability to pilot an approach for residents of neighborhoods experiencing disproportionate impacts of climate change firsthand to share their neighborhood-level expertise, craft a vision for their community, and provide recommendations for the 2023 GCP. Across 4 sessions during the summer of 2022, more than 225 residents representing 11 priority communities gathered to share their lived experiences. To make participation possible, childcare was provided, and residents were compensated for their time. Nearly 300 ideas were shared to improve the sustainability, equity, and resilience of these key neighborhoods. All were given consideration in the development of the goals, strategies, and actions that came forth.

Centering Priority Communities – Climate Safe Neighborhoods

Climate Safe Neighborhoods (CSN) is a national effort through Groundwork USA to identify neighborhoods that are more vulnerable to the effects of climate change because of racial and social injustices, spread awareness and educate residents in those neighborhoods, and ignite action towards climate resilience. The Climate Safe Neighborhoods partnership explores the relationship between historical race-based housing segregation and the current and predicted impacts of climate change. Effective community engagement is important for creating better policies and programs, addressing inequality, and building resilient communities.

"My focus was never on climate, but it was always about climate."

Marisha Davis –

Lower Price Hill resident, Climate Advisory Group participant, and now a Groundwork Neighborhood Liaison.

Since 2021, Groundwork Ohio River Valley in partnership with Green Umbrella and the Office of Environment and Sustainability developed neighborhood Climate Advisory Groups to identify solutions to address extreme heat and flooding. Through intentional engagement with residents in priority communities, the effort honors community members as the subject matter experts in identifying local issues and co-creating community-based solutions. Residents are compensated for their work and the goal is to develop neighborhood resilience maps, which serve as a platform for activating the residents' vision and as a tool to advocate for resources. As of early 2023, 8 neighborhoods and 38 resident leaders have created Climate Resilience Plans (See Appendix). Many components of these Plans are reflected in the GCP.

A Lower Price Hill that rises together to overcome oppression, inequalities, and adversity by empowering and uplifting each other to achieve equality through demanding resources and to finally be counted in the choices for the neighborhood and the city.



Tying it all together

Co-creation of a community vision requires listening, collaboration, and compromise. With more than 3,000 citizen recommendations, the focus area subcommittees worked to synthesize the input from multiple channels.

Streams of Input

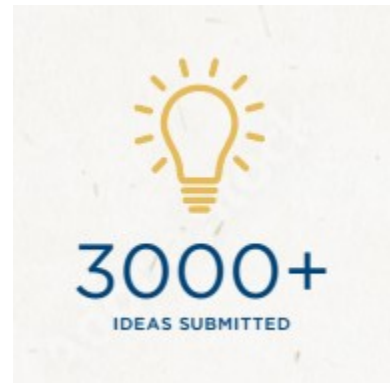


From the thousands of voices that have contributed to this planning process, several cross-cutting themes emerged as key community priorities. These themes are called cross-cutting because they tend to be intersectional topics that impact multiple focus areas of this plan.

Cross-Cutting Themes that Span the 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan

To develop the goals, strategies, and actions for the Focus Areas, the 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan process incorporated feedback from many voices, backgrounds, and levels of expertise. During this process, a number of cross-cutting themes emerged:

- Creating jobs
- Prioritizing community
- Leveraging the landmark federal funding opportunities
- Emphasizing and building social cohesion
- Fostering public awareness and education for successful change



These themes span all eight Focus Areas as well as the three Pillars of Sustainability, Equity, and Resilience. They demonstrate a desire and need expressed in multiple ways throughout the engagement process. They are a key representation of how the community's vital voice helped shape the 2023 GCP. Furthermore, the themes showcase the importance of integrating action at the grassroots level with communities in order to move the City forward toward a new future.

Creating Jobs

Jobs that are self-sustaining provide dignity and an opportunity for wealth-building. Many priority communities lack access to such jobs and required training, forcing residents to travel far distances to work and school. This need for self-sustaining jobs arose as a theme in nearly all Focus Areas, more than any other theme. The emerging technology and redevelopment needed to reduce the city's carbon footprint and enact the strategies in the GCP require the creation of new training pathways and jobs of varying skill levels. The training and job creation opportunities before us will be further explored in following sections.

Prioritizing Community

Centering Equity in the GCP highlighted the need to prioritize change in the neighborhoods and communities which need it most—not necessarily those with the loudest voices or the most influence. All areas and aspects of the GCP must prioritize the communities that have been historically underrepresented and have endured a disproportionate amount of environmental injustice. While data is an imperative source that drives strategy, the lived experience of those most impacted must be raised as well.

Bringing People Together— Emphasizing Connectedness

Social cohesion (tight-knit communities) is a critical tool for resilience and climate adaptation, and its importance came up again and again in the GCP development process. By emphasizing social cohesion, we ensure we are identifying solutions that match infrastructure and policy changes to the specific communities being served. Additionally, these solutions strengthen the relationships among members of a community and engage the community in each step of the decision-making process.

Fostering Public Awareness

The City cannot accomplish all the goals of the 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan on its own. Instead, it must rely on the involvement and commitment of partner organizations and grass-roots efforts. Furthermore, the City needs the public's help. By understanding the GCP's overall significance and supporting investment in the appropriate strategies and actions, the public can provide the necessary momentum to propel Cincinnati forward.

Federal Funding Opportunity Before Us

The investment required to implement the GCP in full is admittedly vast. Luckily, we are in the midst of an unprecedented opportunity to fund sustainability projects. The federal government recently passed two key pieces of legislation, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), that created over \$1.6 billion in funding opportunities.

Passed in November 2021, the IIJA, provides \$1.2 trillion to invest in critical infrastructure across the United States. From 2022-2026, IIJA will provide funding to implement and improve public transit, transportation infrastructure, EV charging, resilient infrastructure, environmental remediation, and power infrastructure. Building on a strong infrastructure foundation, the IRA, subsequently passed in 2022, invests \$369 billion in energy security and climate programs. Over the next ten years, IRA will fund community investment in energy efficiency, electric vehicles, solar, and greenhouse gas emission reduction programs.

IIJA and IRA are aligned with the Biden Administration's priorities to create good-paying union jobs, tackle the climate crisis, and advance environmental justice and equity. To achieve these goals, President Biden also commissioned the Justice40 initiative (J40), a whole-of-government effort to ensure that federal agencies deliver at least 40% of the overall benefits from federal investments to disadvantaged communities. J40 related criteria and tools are starting to influence most funding opportunities stemming from federal agencies and will continue to do so in coming years.

Justice40 (J40) is dynamic, cross-department effort across the federal government to explicitly require equitable benefits be applied to programs related to climate change – including clean energy and energy efficiency, clean transportation, affordable housing, workforce development, pollution remediation, clean water infrastructure, and more – including federal funding. Justice40 aims to bring resources to communities most impacted by climate change, pollution, and environmental hazards.

Leveraging Funding Opportunities

Passed in 2022, the Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (*IJA*) and Inflation Reduction Act (*IRA*) brought enormous funding opportunities to states and municipalities for job creation, infrastructure improvements, and technology development and adoption. The importance of leveraging these opportunities to accomplish the goals of the GCP spans all eight Focus Areas.

These cross-cutting themes that span the Focus Areas and the Pillars help to unify the actions and efforts of the City and community partners.

Thanks to intentional alignment of the GCP Action Plans with J40 priorities, The City of Cincinnati is primed to leverage the unprecedented federal funding opportunities through the implementation of the Green Cincinnati Plan (GCP). With the support and engagement of the broader community, the GCP lays out an actionable roadmap to advance climate action, resilience, equity, and job creation in our community. The overarching themes in the GCP align with the funding priorities of IJA and IRA. The City of Cincinnati is exploring and pursuing funding opportunities to implement key GCP actions to improve energy efficiency, increase access to clean energy, promote active transportation and build community resilience.

Putting it in Action – Vision, Goals, Strategies, and Actions

The 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan outlines 40 high-impact strategies to reduce our carbon emissions 50% by 2030 and 100% carbon neutrality by 2050. In addition, the Plan identifies 30 measurable goals that will be used to report our progress towards a more sustainable, equitable, and resilient Cincinnati. Building on the shoulders of Cincinnati’s climate action planning efforts since 2008, these high-impact strategies arose as part of a community-wide, community-driven collaborative effort.

Focus Areas

Climate action happens at the intersection of many interconnected systems including people, nature, infrastructure, economics, and more. The 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan (GCP) is organized around eight key Focus Areas that play a significant role in driving systems change:



- Buildings and Energy
- City Operations
- Community Activation
- Food
- Mobility
- Natural Resources
- Resilience & Climate Adaptation
- Zero Waste

The connection of the eight Focus Areas is symbolized through the flower motif, in which each Focus Area is its own petal of the flower and holds a unique chapter icon. The flower, like this climate action plan, leads us to think of our natural connections, which are diverse, beautiful, cross-pollinating, delicate, rooted, and dependent on the ecosystems of which they are a part.

Each Focus Area includes the following components:

- Vision—A brief statement that encapsulates the world we’re trying to create within the Focus Area; tends to be aspirational, a north star; not accomplishable within the five-year timeframe of GCP yet well worth aiming for.
- Goals—Measurable statements that stretch us toward each vision and can be tracked over time to ensure movement in the right direction as well as accountability.
- Strategies—Phrases that subdivide the Focus Area and give guidance; allows for categorizing of Priority Actions and points us toward the corresponding Goal; formed from coalescing of input; intended to allow the flexibility to add other emergent Priority Actions later.
- Priority Actions—Action phrases arising from and prioritized as a part of the engagement process; likely to provide the most promising pathways to achieve stated Goals.

Action Alignment

To help understand the GCP’s strength of alignment to the sustainability, equity, and resilience pillars, a cross-section of stakeholders was surveyed to evaluate the actions. The results of this evaluation are provided as the Action Alignment charts following each strategy. These tables are a means of understanding the intersectional nature of the Priority Actions. Green represents strong alignment, yellow represents moderate alignment, and red represents weak or low alignment.

Implementing Actions & Tracking Progress

The 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan (GCP) is commitment to action. It articulates an ambitious vision for the City—one that activates our community, strategically invests resources for impact, and does our part to protect the natural environment. In order to realize this vision, the City and partners must take action. To this end, the City shares a four-pronged approach to GCP implementation:

Lead by Example: The City will continue to lead by example by greening government operations and looking for efficiency gains that save Cincinnati money. The City Operations section of the GCP references most of these efforts.

Partner with Champions: Cincinnati is home to businesses, nonprofits, and other institutions that will help move Cincinnati toward a sustainable, equitable, and resilient future. In fact, these organizations are often better positioned than the City to execute Strategies and Actions. The City commits to partnering with these “Champions” and supporting their GCP-related initiatives. The role of Champions in helping to accomplish the Goals of the GCP cannot be overemphasized.

Equity in Implementation: Equity is foundational in both the development and implementation of the Plan for our City to remain accountable to building a truly sustainable, equitable, and resilient city. The Equity Commitment gives inspiration and guidance, and the related terms provide shared language – both of which matter greatly. Beyond these words in the written Plan, the implementation strategy will be informed by recent and disaggregated data and led alongside those with lived experience of environmental injustice. The City is committed to an implementation approach that best holds all involved accountable the Equity Commitment made.

Track & Communicate Progress: Each GCP Focus Area identifies quantitative Goals in order to drive accountability, learning, and adaptation over time. Working with “Champion” community partners, the City will track progress on each Goal on an annual basis. All Goals within the GCP are intended to be completed in 5 years, unless otherwise stated. The City’s Office of Environment and Sustainability (OES) will report progress quarterly to City Council’s Climate, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee. Council can intervene, if necessary, to keep efforts on track. Additionally, the City has partnered with ClimateView to provide an accessible, up-to-date dashboard of Cincinnati’s progress. Finally, the City is piloting a community engagement software called CitizenLab to remain connected to as many community members as possible throughout implementation.



Green Cincinnati Plan
2023

FOCUS AREA

Buildings & Energy





FOCUS AREA

Buildings & Energy

Energy-efficient buildings and clean energy for a healthy, equitable, and resilient city.

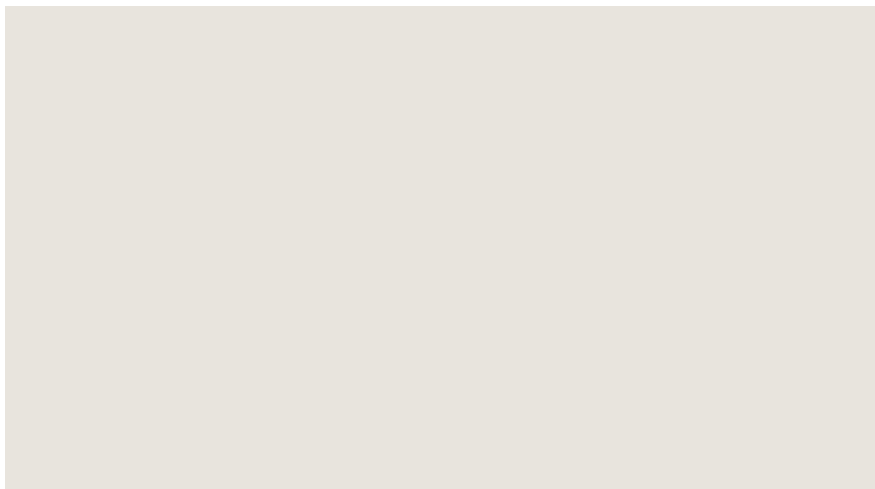
Vision

Adoption of clean energy sources and energy efficiency measures by 2050 that result in net zero emissions from buildings, contributing to a healthy, equitable, and resilient future for our City.

From the Buildings & Energy Focus Area Chair

It has been a distinct pleasure to lead the Buildings & Energy Committee, and work alongside City leadership and the Office of Environment & Sustainability (OES).

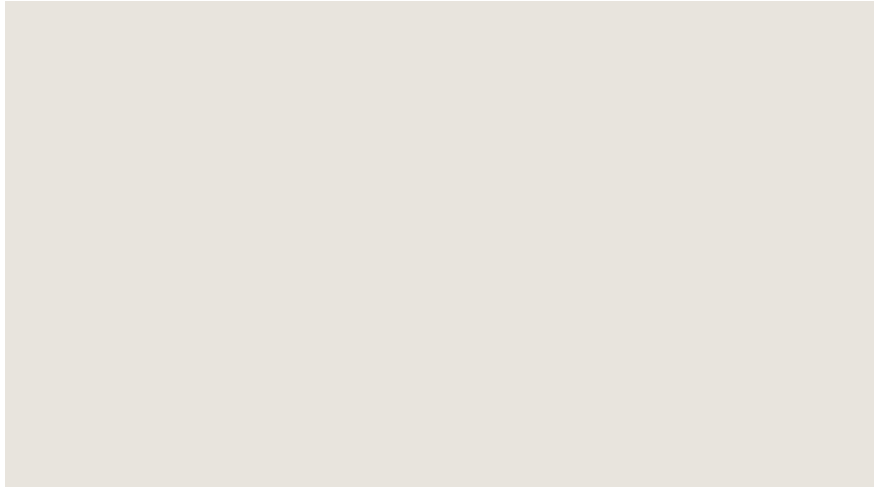
Cincinnati has embraced a vision for its future based on sustainability, equity, and resilience. That vision will play a central role in how the city works to achieve its goal of carbon neutrality by 2050. Through past efforts and the hard work of community partners, we have already begun to reduce the climate impacts of our buildings. However, Cincinnati's existing and historic building stock, combined with its reliance on fossil fuels as the primary source for heating and power, means that much work remains.



Add image/caption. Suggest historic buildings in Cincinnati

Deep energy retrofits, alternative and renewable sources of energy, and electrification are critical paths ahead of us. The recent influx of feder-

al funding in the energy efficiency and renewable energy sectors has opened doors that previously did not exist. Tax credits are available to homeowners and businesses to reduce the costs associated with electrifying their buildings. Non-profits, religious institutions, and governments can access the benefits provided by tax credits through a system of direct payments that will make installing solar and energy efficiency more affordable.



Add image/caption. Suggest historic building with green modifications

As I engaged with stakeholders during the development of this Green Cincinnati Plan, I heard a desire to implement strategies that will result in buildings that contribute to a healthy, equitable, and resilient future. While our elected leaders will play an important role in developing these strategies, it will ultimately be up to community organizations, residents, and businesses to invest in their buildings and push for cleaner sources of energy. The Green Cincinnati Plan process has filled me with a sense of optimism about what the city can achieve. It won't be without challenges, but if we work together, we can begin to prepare Cincinnati's buildings and energy sector for a carbon-neutral future.

FOCUS AREA CHAIR



**BUILDINGS & ENERGY
FOCUS AREA CHAIR**

Sanyog Rathod

ORGANIZATION
Sol Consulting & Design

EQUITY LIAISON



I hope that we leverage the transition to clean and sustainable energy sources to create family sustaining jobs especially in underserved communities.

EQUITY LIAISON
Flequer Vera

ORGANIZATION
CEO, Sustainergy Cooperative

NEIGHBORHOOD
Northside

Energy Efficiency

Goal

Reduce building emissions 30% from 2021 levels by 2030.

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2021

DATA SOURCE(S)

Duke Energy Ohio annual usage data by sector

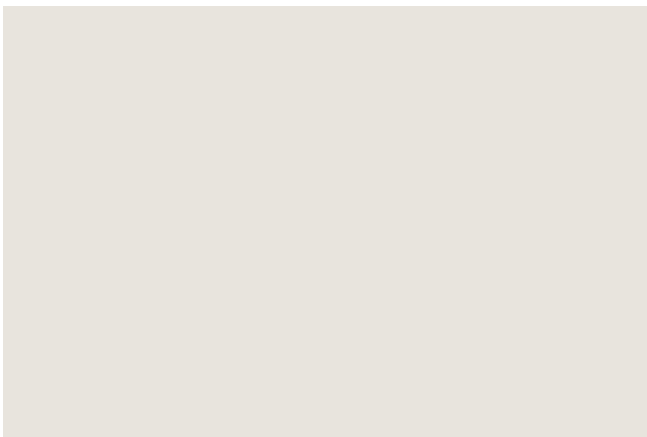
Strategy

Decrease energy usage in new and existing buildings through adoption of energy efficiency and electrification technologies

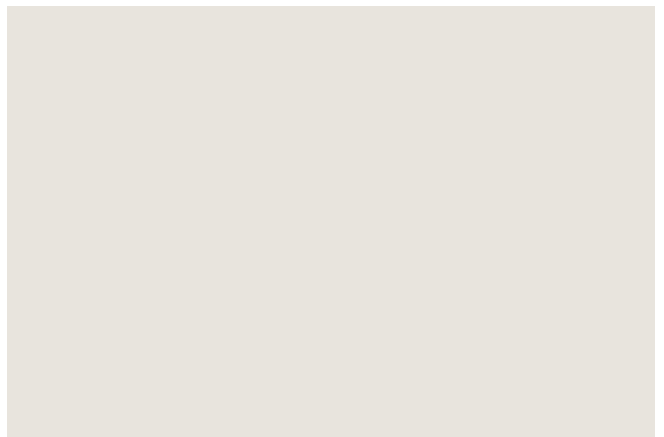
The City must reduce the amount of energy buildings use if we are to meet our carbon emissions goals. Achieving this reduction will require programs and policy tools to assist those who want to decrease energy use and programs to nudge building owners toward embracing energy efficiency. Providing building owners with tools and resources that make investing in energy efficiency more affordable will help decrease energy consumption. Lastly, shifting away from a reliance on natural gas through electrification will further reduce carbon emissions.

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Improve building performance by implementing policies like benchmarking, building performance standards, or other relevant energy standards	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Partner with local organizations to offer financing tools such as a loan fund, Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE), or Green Bank to support investment in energy efficiency	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Recognize the role embodied carbon plays in the built environment and align incentive programs to encourage the reuse of existing buildings	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Add image/caption.



Add image/caption.

Electrification

Goal

Electrify 20,000 households by 2030.

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2022

DATA SOURCE(S)

Shining A Light, Go Sustainable Energy

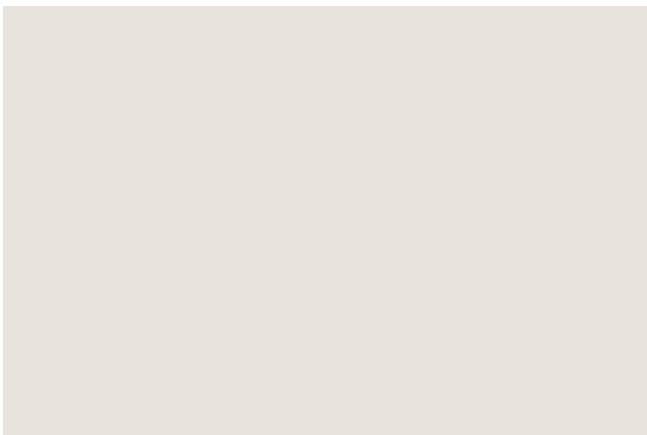
Strategy

Electrify buildings with carbon-free energy

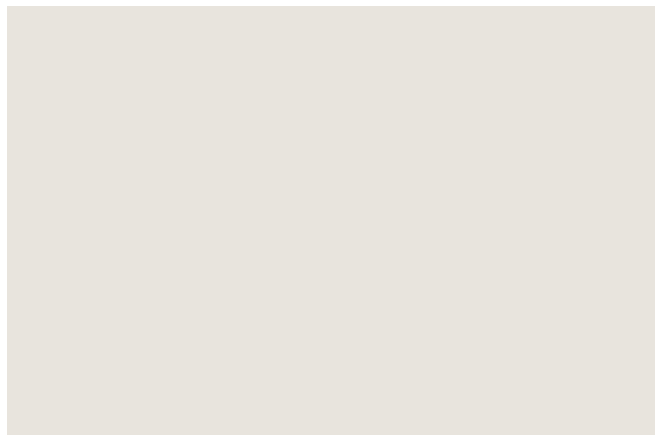
The City must reduce its reliance on fossil fuels, including natural gas for cooking and heating if it is to meet its carbon emissions goals. One of the best ways to accomplish this is through building electrification. Building owners need to understand the diverse benefits that electrification can provide and the resources that are available to facilitate the transition. Programs that encourage the electrification of new construction will reduce the costs associated with shifting away from natural gas in the future. While electrified buildings may initially rely on electricity from coal or natural gas power plants, they allow for a shift to carbon-free sources of electricity to occur over time.

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Reduce reliance on natural gas by developing programs to encourage the adoption of heat pumps, heat pump water heaters, and induction stoves	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Create incentives to encourage developers to electrify new buildings or install infrastructure so buildings can easily convert to all-electric in the future	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Educate the community and corporate partners about tax credits and other programs available to assist with the transition to more energy efficient technologies	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Add image/caption. Suggest heat/water pump



Add image/caption. Suggest all-electric building

Energy Poverty

Goal

Reduce the number of households experiencing energy poverty 10% from 2022 levels by 2028.

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2021

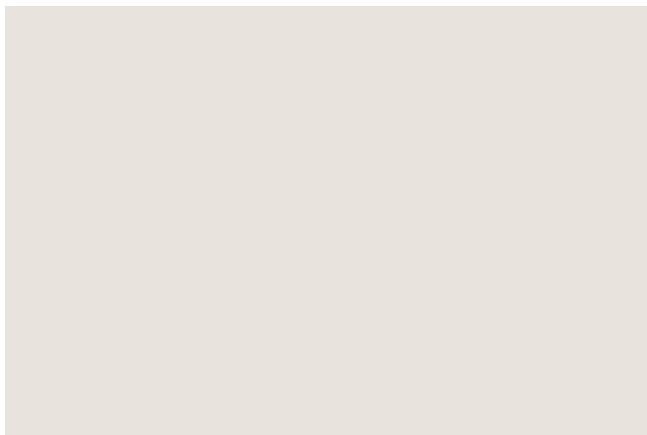
DATA SOURCE(S)

Duke Energy Ohio utility data by census tract and US census data

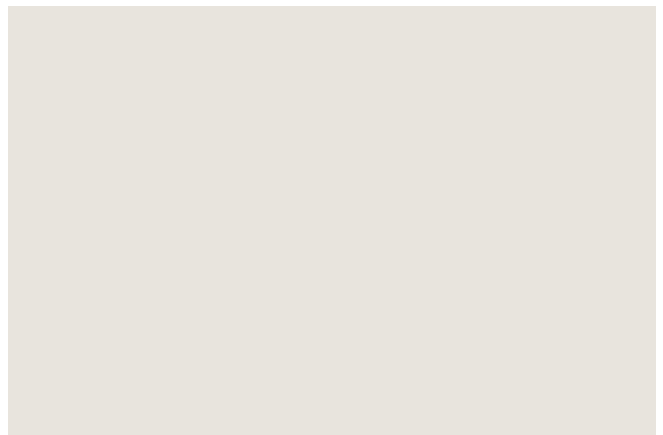
Strategy

Reduce energy costs for tenants and homeowners experiencing energy poverty to improve the affordability of housing

Many Cincinnati residents live in energy poverty. “Energy poverty” occurs when more than 6% of a household’s income is spent on utilities. To reduce energy poverty levels, the City must implement strategies to improve the energy efficiency of housing in its priority communities. This can take the form of programs to encourage the adoption of energy-efficiency technologies or policies that increase energy efficiency requirements for multi-family units. The City must also explore ways to provide access to low-cost sources of electricity such as onsite or community solar.



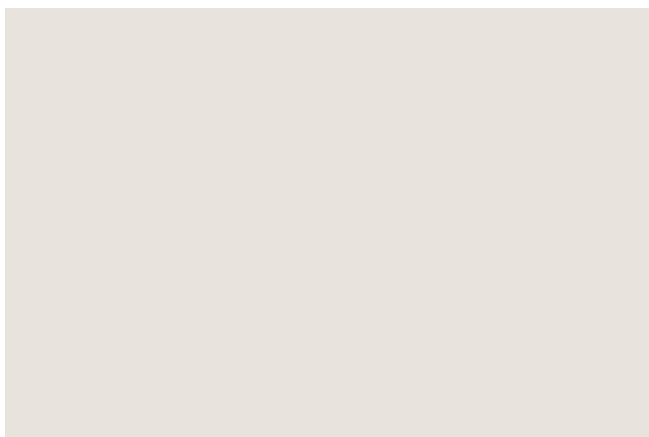
Add image/caption. Suggest image from Warm Up Cincinnati



Add image/caption. Suggest solar installed at low income housing

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Grow and expand programs such as WarmUp Cincy to support low-income renters, homeowners, and landlords of affordable housing with the installation of weatherization, energy efficiency, and healthy home upgrades	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Implement and fund programs to install solar on low-income housing	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Create programs and standards that will increase the energy efficiency of residential and multi-family buildings in order to decrease energy poverty	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Add image/caption. Suggest image using utilities in the home

Clean Energy

Goal

Obtain 40% of electricity load from clean energy sources by 2030.

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2021

DATA SOURCE(S)

Duke Energy data on amount of solar installed and data on production from City led PPA agreements

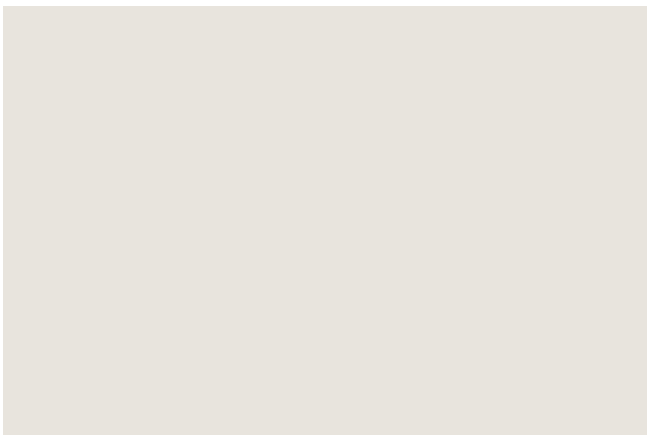
Strategy

Provide residents and businesses with continual access to power from clean energy sources.

In addition to reducing the amount of energy it uses, the City must shift to clean energy sources. Programs that encourage adoption of clean energy sources and make them affordable for residents and businesses will play an important role at the local level. However, to make the transition to clean energy, the City must look beyond its borders to find energy sources and storage options that can help meet its energy needs.

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Support programs like Solarize that encourage adoption of rooftop solar	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Partner with local organizations to offer financing tools such as a loan fund or Green Bank to support investment in renewable energy	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Continue to pursue wind and solar Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) to secure enough electricity to support City operations and the Cincinnati aggregation program	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Identify energy storage options like batteries, pumped storage, or hydrogen storage to maximize utilization of clean energy and improve grid reliability	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Add image/caption. Suggest image from Solarize



Green Cincinnati Plan
2023

FOCUS AREA

City Operations





FOCUS AREA

City Operations

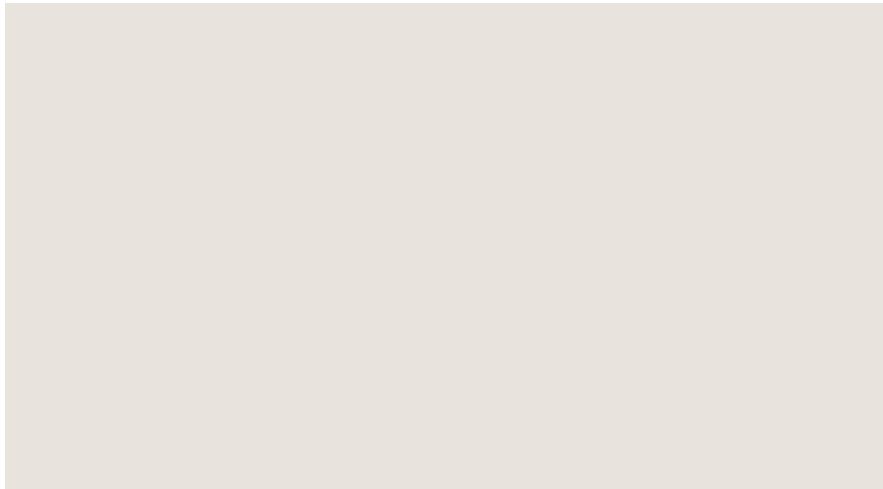
Design city functions to operationalize sustainability and center climate equity.

Vision

A City that leads by example centering community voice in the inter-departmental design and implementation of programs and policies

From the City Operations Focus Area Chair

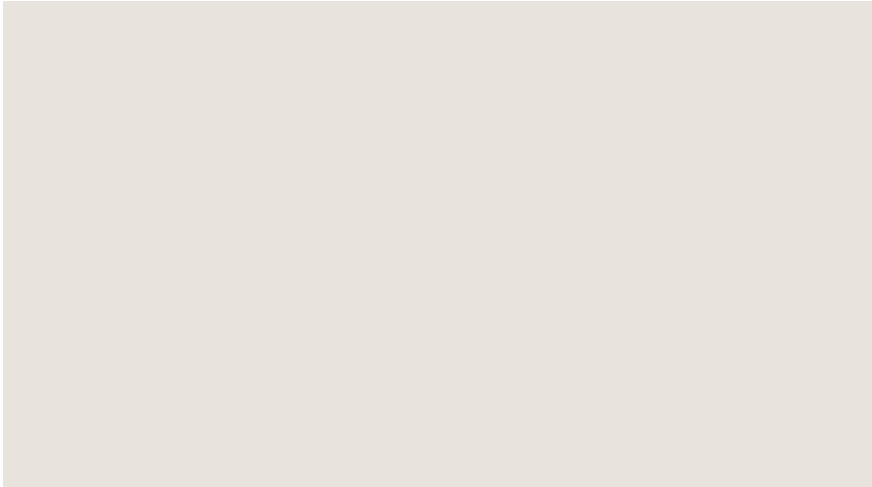
If the past several years have taught us anything about climate action, it's that cities are moving the needle on climate progress in a real and big way, even absent federal regulation. From tree planting, to building electrification, to investing in multi-modal transportation, cities are responding to the calls for action from their citizens. And while carbon neutrality can only be achieved through cross-sectoral collaboration, **one of the most powerful ways cities can demonstrate their commitment to climate action is by investing in their own internal operations.**



Add image/caption. Suggest City vehicle using green technology.

This year is the first year that the Green Cincinnati Plan (GCP) has featured a section just dedicated to the City's operations. The City's operational footprint is considerable, at over 6,000 employees utilizing 1,800 fleet vehicles that cover 14.9 million miles a year. By being included in the 2023 GCP, we have the opportunity to transform the City's footprint into a steady march toward climate justice.

The goals, strategies, and actions in the City Operations chapter are a culmination of feedback provided by city employees as well as enthusiastic discussion from department leaders. These measures are bold and ambitious, reflecting just how critical this issue is to the City's leadership.

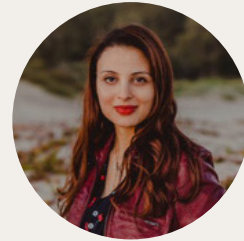


Add image/caption. Suggest LED street lights

From employee travel to LED streetlights, these measures are more than strategies to reduce carbon emissions; they're a way for the City to herald a new approach to operations, one that leads with employee engagement, equity, and operational resilience. This vision will chart the course for decision-making and planning in the years ahead.

I want to thank Mayor Aftab Pureval, Councilmember Meeka Owens—and all our councilmembers—our department and City leadership, and engaged City employees for their visionary support of an exciting new chapter. Together, we're putting sustainability at the forefront of the City's operations.

FOCUS AREA CHAIR



**CITY OPERATIONS
FOCUS AREA CHAIR**

Sarah Mostafa

ORGANIZATION

Deputy Director,
City of Cincinnati Office of
Performance and Data Analytics

EQUITY LIAISON



I hope to see more
City staff across
departments
incorporating
sustainability,
resilience, and equity
into City plans,
projects, and policies.

EQUITY LIAISON

Savannah Sullivan

ORGANIZATION

Climate Action Director
Green Umbrella

NEIGHBORHOOD

Walnut Hills

Climate Equity Budgeting

Goal

Center Justice40 in the City budget and program design, ensuring at least 40% of spending benefits priority communities

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2022

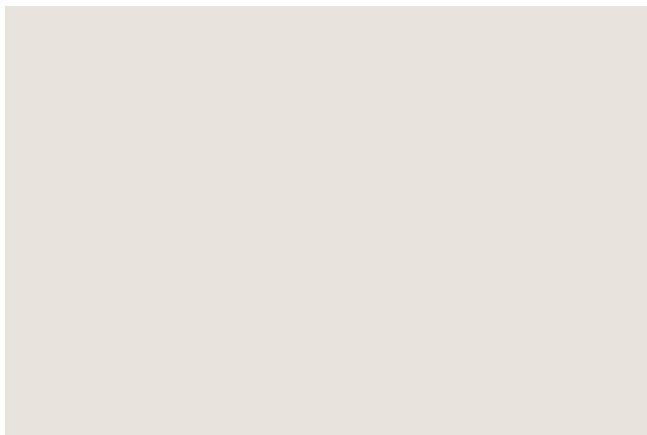
DATA SOURCE(S)

City of Cincinnati Biennial Budget

Strategy 1

Utilize a budget & procurement process that aligns and accelerates the City's climate equity priorities.

The City's budget is a reflection of its values and strategic priorities and sets the direction for policy and program development. To build a sustainable, equitable, and resilient city, Cincinnati will build a budget and procurement strategy that supports these priorities. New federal incentives and grants provide unprecedented opportunity for cities to invest in transformational climate action. To make the most of this funding, the City will add staff and contract support to enhance grant tracking, implementation, and management.



Add image/caption. Not sure what visual supports this?

Priority Actions

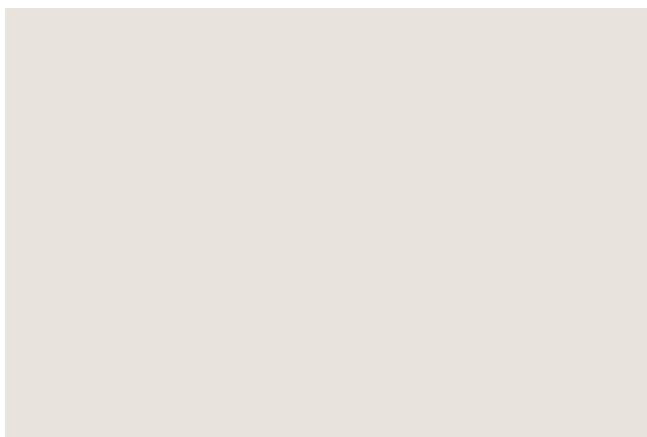
	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Implement participatory and priority-based budgeting	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Develop annual funding for sustainability investments/Municipal bond to capitalize on climate incentives of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Streamline procurement to enhance the impact of federal funding by using cooperative purchasing including Omnia, GSA, Sourcewell	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Continue to develop a framework for supporting green jobs with a focus on youth	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Hire a grant writer to assist in pursuit of federal funding with focus on the Justice40 Initiative to address environmental justice issues	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Create policy for the procurement of sustainable goods for internal city supplies and materials, conduct a City audit to develop strategic priorities.	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Climate Equity Budgeting

Strategy 2

Center and activate community voice in designing climate and equity policies and programs.

The City will center community voice in developing policies, programs, and budgets to address climate equity issues. Recognizing government's historical role in creating and deepening the inequity we see in Cincinnati, the City will focus on procedural equity by inviting and elevating the voices of priority communities. The City will continue to include the lived experiences of community members in tracking and measuring climate equity indicators.



Add image/caption. Not sure what images support the content.

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Crowdsource climate solutions with programs like hackathons to tackle complex issues	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Improve communication and accessibility of sustainability programs and progress to the public	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Join and leverage Government Alliance on Race & Equity to advance climate equity programs	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Update the Climate Equity Indicators report every 5 years to design programs that target benefits to priority communities	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Transportation

Goal

400 electric vehicles in the city fleet by 2028

100% of employees have access to sustainable transportation options.

DATA SOURCE(S)

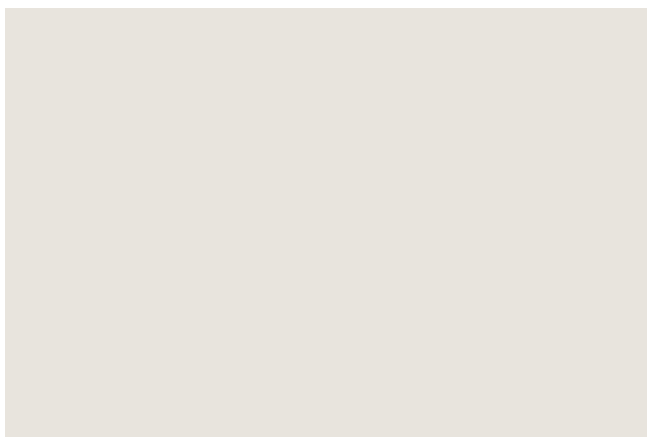
City Fleet Database

Strategy

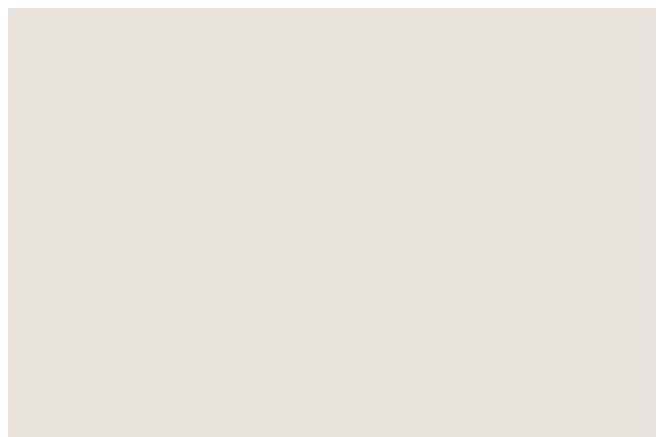
1. Electrify and right-size the city fleet
2. Enable green transportation options for employees

To achieve the decarbonization goals of the Green Cincinnati Plan the City must reduce the emissions footprint of our fleet and employee commutes. We can accomplish this goal by:

- Reducing the number of single passenger trips through HR policies and incentives
- Electrifying the vehicles and equipment we need
- Installing sufficient charging infrastructure to power the City's fleet needs.



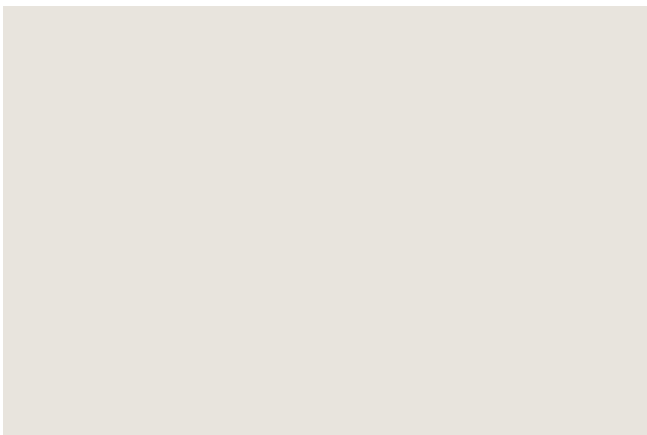
Add image/caption. Suggest image of a city electric vehicle.



Add image/caption. Suggest image of charging infrastructure.

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Conduct an electric vehicle (EV) charging needs assessment for city fleet & install necessary infrastructure at city facilities; partner with County at shared facilities	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Conduct a needs assessment to right-size the city fleet	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Continue to electrify the city fleet and equipment including lawn equipment	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Offer remote work flexibility to reduce commuting	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Develop HR Incentives for employee use of public transit, biking, & walking	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Add image/caption. Suggest image showing green lawn equipment

Energy

Goal

100% Renewable Energy for city operations by 2035

30% energy efficiency improvements by 2030

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2022

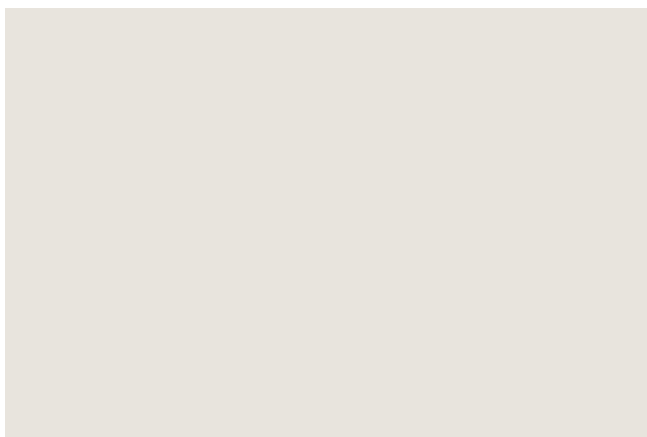
DATA SOURCE(S)

Duke Energy, RMI LEAF Analysis

Strategy

Invest in high-performance and resilient city facilities

The City is committed to moving to 100% clean energy sources by 2035. Focusing first on energy efficiency will reduce the total amount of clean energy that the City will need. To achieve this reduction, departments and facility managers will need to work together and pursue net-zero performance for all new city facilities. The City can opt for clean energy from the grid and can request proposals for utility-scale renewable energy and storage to help meet these goals. Federal incentives provide unique opportunity for major progress toward these energy goals.



Add image/caption. Suggest image of LED streetlights

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Establish prioritized facilities as “Resilience Hubs”—centers for community gathering during emergency. Equip with solar and backup power to provide relief during emergency	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Pursue additional utility-scale clean energy with requests for proposal (RFP)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Organize facility managers to create a sustainable facility policy for new city buildings	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Continue to strategically pursue energy efficiency for city facilities	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Convert streetlights to LED, electrify gas lights	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Publish energy benchmarking data for city facilities on Cincy Insights	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Green Cincinnati Plan
2023

FOCUS AREA

Community Activation





FOCUS AREA

Community Activation

Empowering residents to play a central role in creating climate solutions.

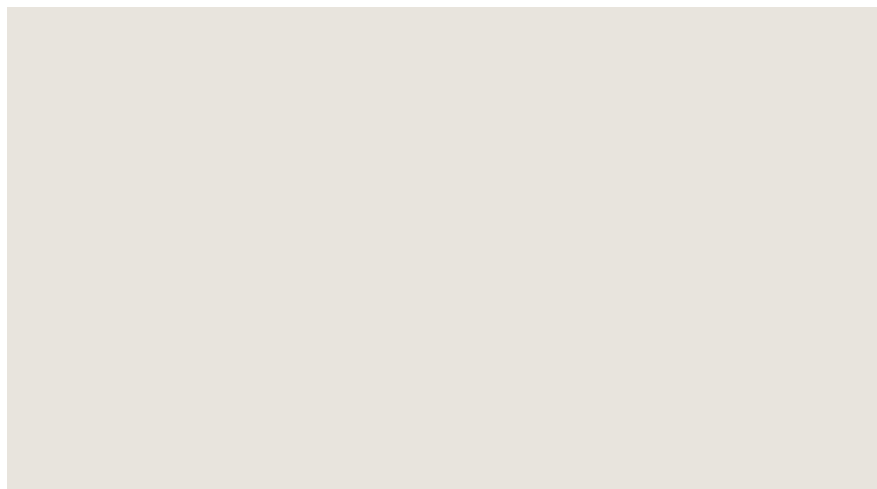
Vision

All residents know about and are empowered to take action to address the systemic issues underlying climate change and environmental injustice through individual and collective action

From the Community Activation Focus Area Chair

From conducting educational programs, to leading outreach efforts, to advocating for stronger policies, I've dedicated my life to securing a healthier environment for my community. The most important lesson I've learned along the way—this work takes all of us.

This chapter of the Green Cincinnati Plan (GCP) was renamed “Community Activation” (from “Advocacy, Education & Outreach”) to better capture our need for collective action and engagement of all Cincinnati residents. It's going to take all of us to tackle the systemic issues of climate change and environmental injustice. Advocacy, education, and outreach serve as three foundational pillars to overall Community Activation, and you will find Goals for each in this chapter of the GCP.



Add image/caption. Suggest image of Groundwork Ohio River Valley's Green Corp in action

It was an honor to lead the Community Activation Subcommittee, and I'm grateful for the tremendous level of support from my internal team: Molly

Robertshaw from the Office of Environment and Sustainability (OES) and our Equity Liaison, Kelsey Hawkins-Johnson.

Together, we worked alongside community members and representatives from nonprofit organizations, businesses, faith communities, educational institutions, and advocacy groups to develop a framework for inspiring Cincinnati residents to take climate action. Our Subcommittee prioritized and refined more than 200 recommendations for individual and collective action submitted by the community via written suggestions, online surveys, and three in-person meetings.

Together, we identified several promising pathways to drive the equitable and transformative change needed to address climate change and prioritize its disproportionate effects on marginalized communities. Strategies include:

- utilizing advocacy as a lever to creatively and strategically solve problems
- strengthening school-based environmental education and experiences
- amplifying the workforce to meet the demands of the green economy
- increasing the capacity of residents to drive solutions to climate change.

These co-created Strategies build on the collaborative work so many have engaged in across the City. A new avenue for advocacy was created in early 2022 when Cincinnati established the Climate, Environment & Infrastructure Committee—making history as the first city council committee of its kind focused on climate action. Later that year, Mayor Pureval and City Council prioritized sustainability and education efforts in the city budget by investing \$100,000 4M into the Green Cincinnati Fund to support and community sustainability efforts and expand the youth employment budget by \$1 million. Cincinnati historically ranks as one of the best cities in the nation for a green career, and support for our next generation of leaders continues to grow through programs like Groundwork Ohio River Valley’s Green Corp—the largest Green Youth Workforce Program in the nation.

The examples above demonstrate that our Mayor, City Council, City Administration, and community partners are aligned now more than ever to take bold action. Still, there is more work to do. The Green Cincinnati Plan’s community-driven approach embodies our collective power, but it will take everyone activated and engaged to meet our aggressive carbon neutrality goals. I’m encouraged by our progress to date and hopeful—now more than ever—that we can build a sustainable, equitable, and resilient city. This work takes all of us, and I look forward to seeing what we will accomplish next through Community Activation.

FOCUS AREA CHAIR



**COMMUNITY ACTIVATION
FOCUS AREA CHAIR**

Kylie Johnson

ORGANIZATION

Southwest Ohio Regional Director
Ohio Environmental Council

EQUITY LIAISON



I have hope for the expansion of future, young, BIPOC changemakers in the green workforce and at City Hall.

EQUITY LIAISON

Kelsey Hawkins-Johnson

ORGANIZATION

Community & Climate
Programs Lead
Groundwork Ohio River Valley

NEIGHBORHOOD

Hartwell

Advocacy

For the purposes of the Green Cincinnati Plan (GCP), we will define advocacy as “active, public support for an idea, plan, or way of doing something.” As a new component of the 2023 GCP, advocacy will play an integral role in Cincinnati’s climate strategy. Active resident engagement in the process of policy development, resource allocation, and more will help ensure that the City’s response to the climate crisis serves all residents and communities equitably.

Goal

Achieve \$25 million in resources toward GCP priorities by 2028 with at least 40% benefiting priority communities.

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2022

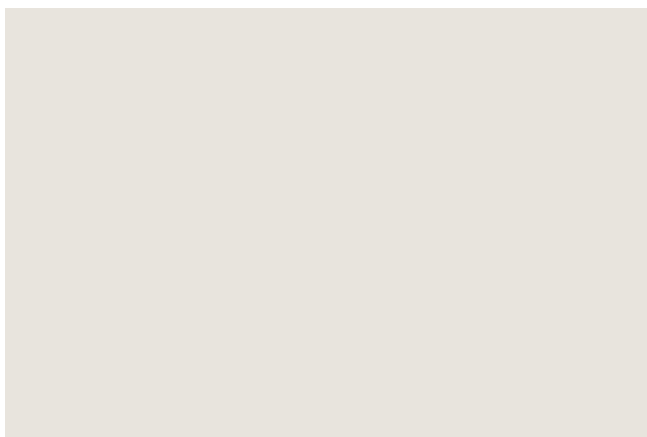
DATA SOURCE(S)

CEFA report for City grants and public/private partnership contacts

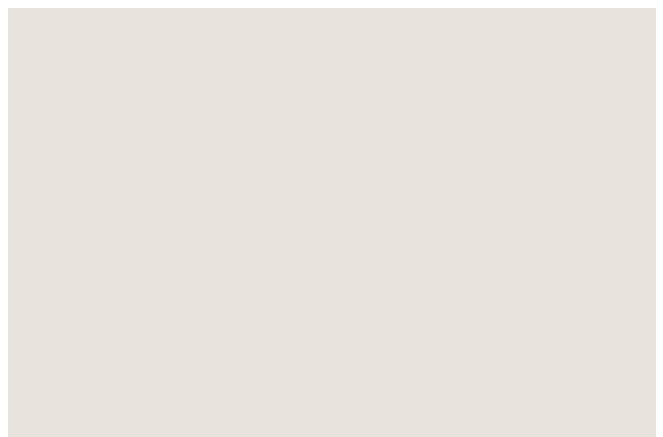
Strategy

Increase utilization of advocacy as a lever to creatively and strategically solve problems.

Cincinnati has many strong individual and organizational advocates for environmental causes. Some are effective at rallying and equipping residents to speak up for individual policies, while others are trusted, expert sources that guide local leaders toward stronger and more just systems and structures. Greater coordination between advocacy groups could help Cincinnati solve pressing environmental challenges more quickly. Likewise, helping advocates align on priorities would ensure the right challenges are being tackled. With creative and persistent advocacy at the municipal level and beyond, the City has the opportunity to create broadscale change and attract significant resources.



Add image/caption. Suggest image from OKI



Add image/caption. Suggest image of Regional Climate Collaborative

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Advocate for the passage of a City Budget that supports GCP priorities with at least 40% benefiting priority communities	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Build and present a case for long-term funding mechanisms that drive emissions reductions. Reallocate the resources generated to reduce disparate impacts.	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Support codification of climate justice and racial equity in City decision-making mechanisms	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Continue to strengthen regional partnerships—like OKI and the Regional Climate Collaborative—to better coordinate, share, and build strategic advantage	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Increase investment in advocacy, lobbying, grant seeking, and partnership development to increase local receipt of federal/state resources	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Education

In a just society, education empowers people to seek the knowledge they need to make informed decisions. This section focuses primarily on reaching children, youth, and young adults in schools and job training programs (the subsequent Outreach section focuses on adult/community member learning). For many of us, opportunities to learn in a hands-on way changes the way we see the world and our respective role in it.

Goal 1

100% of public schools have safe and accessible outdoor learning spaces by 2028

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2020

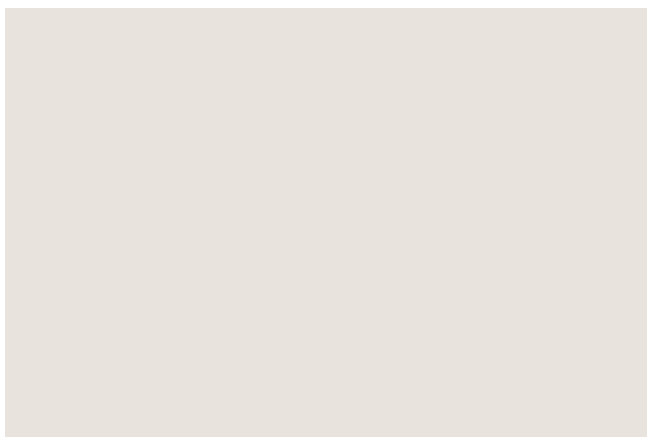
DATA SOURCE(S)

CPS Outside Impact Team, Green Umbrella, Cincinnati Public Schools

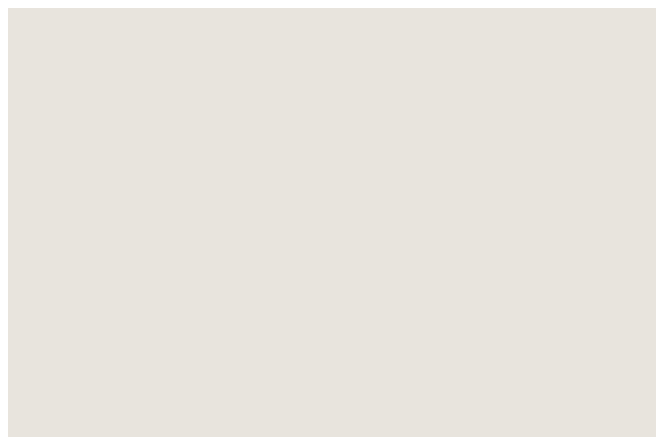
Strategy

Strengthen the breadth and depth of school-based environmental opportunities.

Children and youth spend most of their time for most of the year attending one of the City's many quality educational institutions. Schools are hubs for much of our community's life, making them a logical place to implement sustainability efforts. Given the large demands placed on educational institutions, we need to leverage creative partnerships and passive learning opportunities to integrate sustainability more broadly and deeply in our schools. This degree of collaboration can have a transformative impact on our City's next generation of leaders in a way that inspires them, challenges them, and invites them to find their own role in solutions.



Add image/caption. Suggest image of green schoolyard



Add image/caption. Suggest Green Ribbon Schools image

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Increase school/environmental org partnerships to grow environmental education and climate justice opportunities at schools, including hands-on outdoor learning spaces like Green Schoolyards, with priority given to schools in priority communities	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Support schools to increasingly model sustainable practices inclusive of operations, buildings, fleet, and grounds in alignment with the US Department of Education’s Green Ribbon Schools pillars or similar standards	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Education

Goal 2

4,000 individuals trained for green economy jobs by 2028 (800/year)

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2022

DATA SOURCE(S)

Sources: National Center for Education Statistics Integrated Post-Secondary Education Data System and local workforce training partners

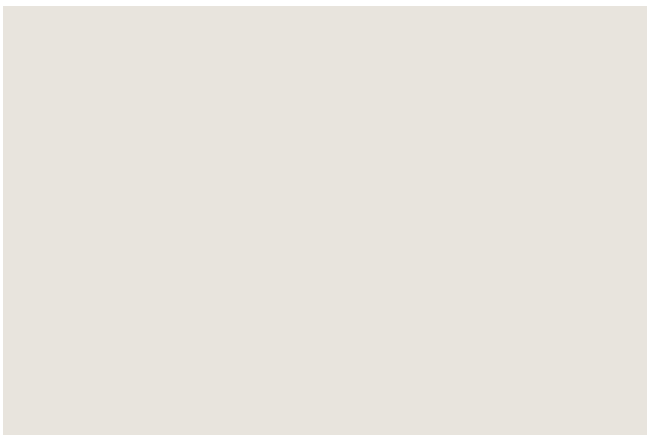
Strategy

Amplify the workforce to meet the demands of the green economy

In the U.S., “green jobs” are those that produce goods or provide services that benefit the environment. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, green economy jobs are growing faster than most other job sectors although the number of jobs is still much lower compared to other sectors. Most of the occupations in the “green” sector pay higher than the annual median wage in the U.S., providing greater opportunities for self-sufficiency. However, these jobs also require advanced education and training. With these realities in mind, training and re-training our workforce to meet the rising need for occupations like EV mechanics, solar panel installers, and weatherization technicians is a must.

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Partner with the local Workforce Investment Board, educational institutions, employers, County, State and more to amplify equity-focused, green workforce training and career pathways	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Continue to grow paid, hands-on learning opportunities and jobs in the green economy with an emphasis on preparing youth and the unemployed and/or difficult to employ for living wage jobs	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Add image/caption. Suggest image of green workforce training

Outreach

Outreach is the effort to bring information and/or services to people where they live or spend time. Adults are the primary audience of GCP outreach efforts. Research and experience show that behavior change can and does happen, especially with the right mix of communication, education, and trust. And the education and communication cannot just flow in one direction - there is great power in the sharing and leveraging of lived experience. Effective outreach and engagement of our communities is vital to the 2023 GCP's success.

Goal

25 priority community members equipped to co-lead the 2028 GCP refresh

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2022

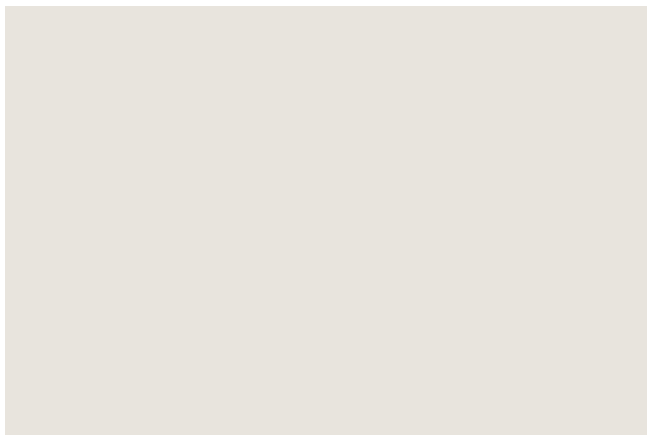
DATA SOURCE(S)

Groundwork Ohio River Valley

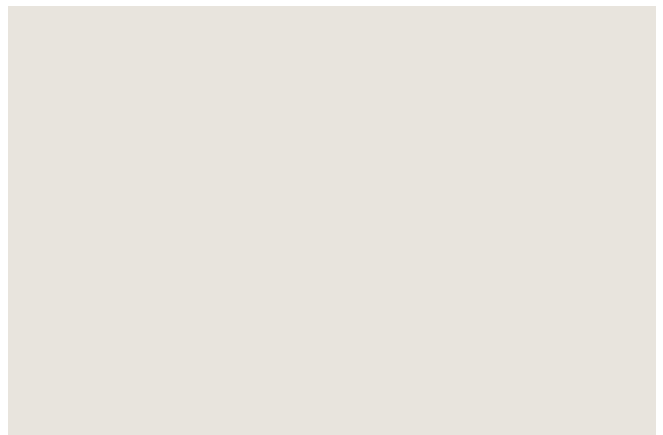
Strategy

Increase the capacity of residents, communities, and businesses to drive solutions to climate change

Residents are fully capable of driving solutions to localized impacts of climate change when provided opportunities to share and learn, prioritize and act. Building both awareness of pressing environmental issues and social cohesion within and across neighborhoods will equip people to create a better future. Residents of priority communities—those experiencing the greatest burdens of environmental injustice—are best positioned to both inform and drive equitable change. The vibrant start-up ecosystem also presents opportunity.



Add image/caption. Suggest image of Climate Safe Neighborhoods



Add image/caption. Suggest youth environmental council

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Create and support more opportunities - like Climate Safe Neighborhoods (CSN) - to identify local environmental problems and enable climate ambassadors to implement sustainable solutions	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Support the Youth Environmental Council to mobilize the next generation	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Support the launch of a one stop shop—physical and virtual—to support residents in making lifestyle changes through informing and incentivizing efforts	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Support business owners and the start-up community to build and enact market solutions to address environmental issues, with a focus on women and minority-owned enterprises	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Green Cincinnati Plan
2023

FOCUS AREA
Food





FOCUS AREA

Food

An equitable food economy that serves all of Cincinnati.

Vision

The food system in Cincinnati will have equitable food access for everyone, a local (within 100 miles) agricultural production and distribution network, living wage jobs in the farming and food sectors, and will eliminate all food waste from the landfill. This circular food economy will disrupt and dismantle the long history of systemic racism, oppression, and inequity and environmental degradation in the food system.

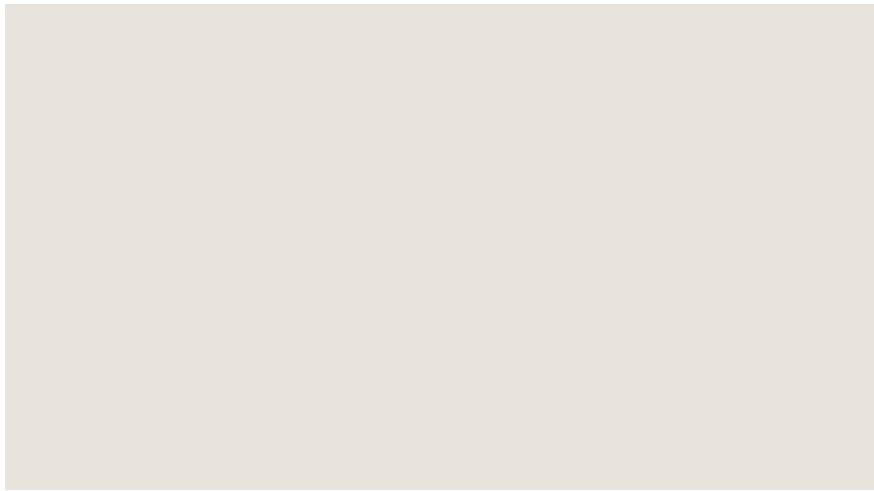
From the Food Focus Area Chair

I was one of eight children, born and raised in a three-bedroom house in the suburbs of Louisville, KY. Living with eight siblings, I quickly found out the one thing we all have in common—the need for food and nourishment. In an effort to supplement our food, my father would gather my brothers and me on the last Saturday in April every year, and we would head out to the backyard to start the process of our yearly vegetable garden.

This tradition taught me a lot of things, but what sticks out the most is that we always grew more than we could use. With the extras we would reuse old Kroger bags and fill them with veggies and drop them off to everyone that lived in my neighborhood. When I finally got the nerve to ask my father why we did this each year, he only replied, “Because not everyone in our community gets to eat every night, but at least tonight I know they will.” I thought to myself, too bad we can’t do this all year. This inspired me to form Brick Gardens.

Brick Gardens (BG) is a social enterprise, addressing food insecurity in Cincinnati’s most marginalized neighborhoods. In May of 2016, BG was awarded a People’s Liberty Project Grant with the mission of converting vacant land and buildings into urban farms and vertical farms, providing fresh healthy produce to food deserts throughout Cincinnati. Brick Gardens has increased its food-growing locations to four sites now, serving six communities: Avondale, Bond Hill, Evanston, Madisonville, Norwood and Roselawn.

Since the founding of Brick Gardens, I have been invited to participate in several panel discussions on food insecurity, serve on the Board of Trustees for the OTR Community Council and Hamilton County Solid Waste Committee, as well as work with the Regional Food Policy Council to help pass urban agriculture zoning laws.



Add image/caption. Brick Gardens urban garden or Brick Gardens harvest distribution

As Chair of the Food Subcommittee, I was delighted to work with such passionate individuals from diverse backgrounds and various organizations all with the mission to create equitable change in our city's food, farm, and green job sector.

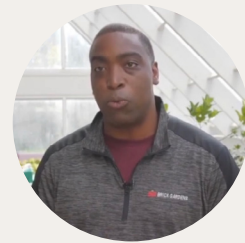
During these interactive discussions, we prioritized and revised the food-related recommendations submitted during the Green Cincinnati Plan (GCP) public engagement process. Additionally, we worked together to provide solid goals, strategies, and actions to guide food-related sustainability efforts throughout the city in the coming years.

As you will see, our recommendations focus on:

- Food access
- Support and funding for agriculture (both urban and rural)
- Jobs

We have a unique opportunity to feed our neighborhood and provide jobs by working with county and regional farmers to create a system for employment and food distribution that benefits all of Cincinnati.

FOCUS AREA CHAIR



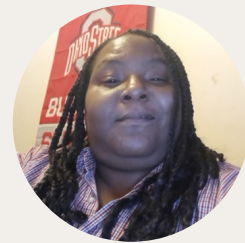
FOOD FOCUS AREA CHAIR

Domonique Peebles

ORGANIZATION

CEO, Brick Gardens

EQUITY LIAISON



I am most excited to bring more resources for healthy foods and safer air for low-income neighborhoods

EQUITY LIAISON

Marisha Davis

ORGANIZATION

Meiser's Fresh Grocery & Deli

NEIGHBORHOOD

Lower Price Hill

Local Food

Goal

Increase local food consumption, distribution, and production by 100%.

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2022

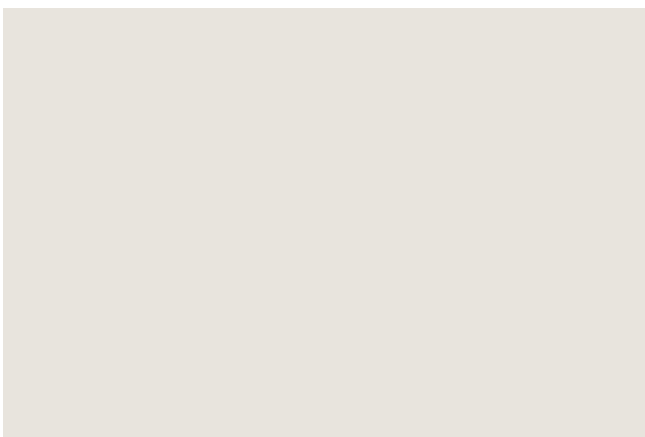
DATA SOURCE(S)

Green Umbrella Food Metrics (tracking since 2010)

Strategy

Utilize regional (within 100 miles) ecological agriculture to increase food production, distribution, consumption, and climate adaptation

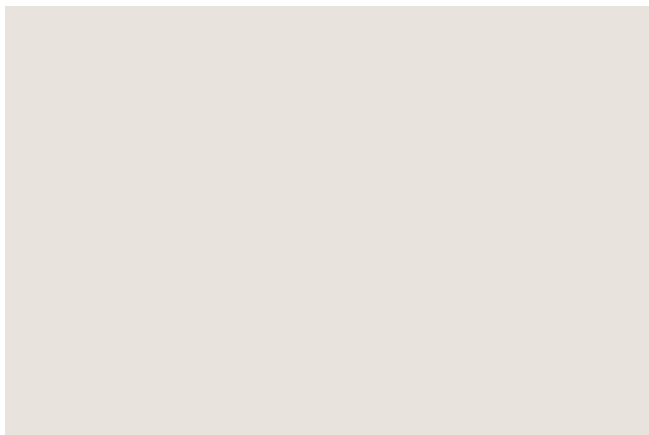
Local food serves both as an economic engine for the city and region and as a source of food. Harvesting and distributing food locally can help stabilize the supply chain. Given its proximity to rural land, Cincinnati can use an expanded regional approach to increase local food production and distribution. In addition to stabilizing the supply chain, this approach provides better access to fresh fruits and vegetables for everyone. Focusing on local food will help inspire more sustainable agricultural practices. Cincinnati must use a variety of approaches and places for growing and distributing food and consider the climate impacts of food production and dietary choices. Lastly, the City must provide the necessary support to bolster a local food economy.



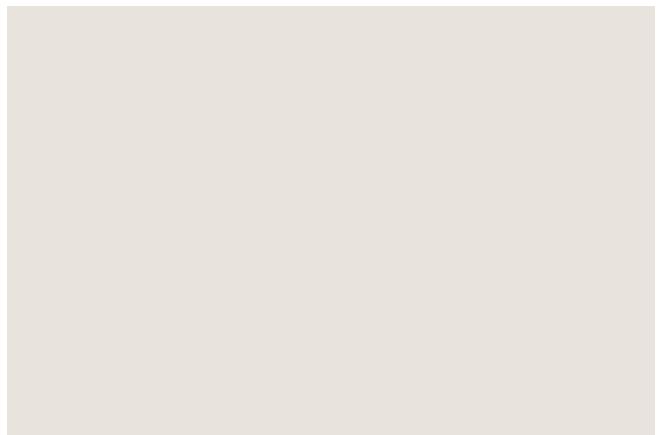
Add image/caption. Suggest image of neighborhood garden

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Increase funding for neighborhood gardens and urban agriculture managers	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Develop a network of neighborhood distribution sites for local food	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Restore & adapt underutilized spaces (vacant lots, indoor space & rooftops) for food production & ecological benefits and promote regenerative agriculture best practices	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Add image/caption. Suggest image rooftop food production



Add image/caption. Suggest image of local farm

Food Access

Goal

Eliminate food deserts in Cincinnati and create food sovereignty in all 52 neighborhoods.

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2022

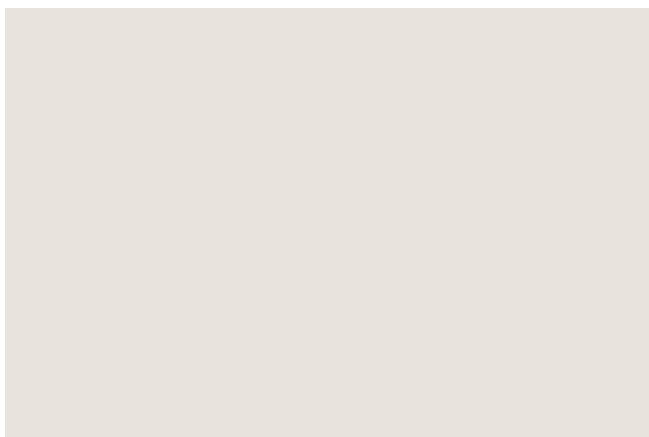
DATA SOURCE(S)

TBD

Strategy

Utilize a variety of systems to create equitable access to nutritious, affordable food in every neighborhood, prioritizing communities that need it most and creating food sovereignty

Many Cincinnati residents live in food deserts with limited access to affordable healthy food and these food deserts most often occur in Black, Indigenous and other communities of color. The lack of access to nutrient-dense food leads to increased rates of chronic disease in these communities. A newer term, “food apartheid,” has emerged and refers to a system of segregation that divides those with access to an abundance of nutritious food from those who have been denied that access due to systemic injustice. Community members are interested in creating a more just and equitable food system, and Cincinnati must implement strategies to provide equitable food access in its priority communities. The City must re-imagine what food distribution and access points look like—by listening to unique community needs and interests—and provide the necessary support to realize this new system and taking climate impact into consideration in the promotion of healthy food choices.



Add image/caption. Farmer’s market and/or other access points

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Increase options for food access within food desert neighborhoods, including but not limited to farmers’ markets, food co-ops, Community Supported Agriculture (CSAs), corner stores, buying clubs, mobile markets, community gardens, and food pantries	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Provide city & regional funding for community-driven and innovative food initiatives	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Increase utilization of locally-grown food at neighborhood food access points	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Engage community members on the impact of dietary choices on climate change, environment, and health - elevate the benefits of plant-based options	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Food System

Goal

Implement 5 of the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (MUFPP) Recommendations by 2028.

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2022

DATA SOURCE(S)

City of Cincinnati Office of Environment & Sustainability and the MUFPP

Strategy

Use the MUFPP framework, working with public and private stakeholders, to develop a sustainable food system in Cincinnati that is inclusive, resilient, safe, diverse & environmentally friendly.

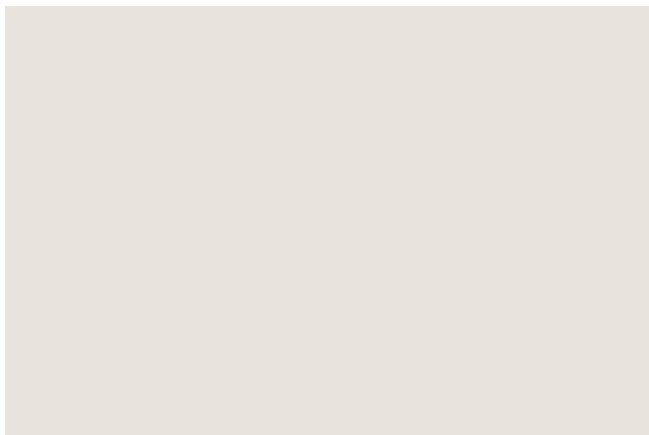
Despite its long history with and deep connection to food, Cincinnati's food system has never equally benefited everyone. More recently, Cincinnati has taken the path of many urban cities by:

- Outsourcing food production and the use of environmentally unsustainable growing techniques
- Transporting goods many miles
- Landfilling vast amounts of edible food
- Failing to meet the nutritional needs of all its citizenry with healthy, affordable food access (despite an abundance of grocery stores)

This is where The Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (MUFPP) comes in. An international agreement among cities from all over the world, MUFPP works to “develop sustainable food systems that are inclusive, resilient, safe and diverse, that provide healthy and affordable food to all people in a human rights-based framework, that minimize waste and conserve biodiversity while adapting to and mitigating impacts of climate change.” MUFPP supports cities wishing to build more sustainable urban food systems by fostering city-to-city cooperation and best practices exchange. As a signatory city Cincinnati must use the MUFPP framework. This framework, along with Cincinnati's unique midwestern urban location with rural connection/access, can help the city implement a comprehensive 21st century food system that addresses the needs of both the planet and the people.

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Develop a comprehensive Food System Plan for Cincinnati, taking into consideration its urban/rural connections and preparation for potential large-scale disruptions due to climate change	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Implement the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact related to good governance, sustainable diets & nutrition, social & economic equity, food production, food supply & distribution and food waste	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Add image/caption.

Food Waste Prevention

Goal

Decrease food going to the landfill 50% by 2030.

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2018

DATA SOURCE(S)

Hamilton County Waste Audit

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2021

DATA SOURCE(S)

Hamilton County Reporting on waste diverted

Strategy

Increase efficiency of the food system and minimize environmental impact through prevention, reuse/recovery, education, and best practices for surplus food.

In 2021, Cincinnati sent approximately 74,953 tons to the landfill, 31.1% (23,310 tons) of which was organic material (16.8% =12,592 tons of food waste; 14.3% =10,718 tons of yard trimmings). All of this organic waste contributes to methane, a powerful greenhouse gas which is harmful to the environment and drives climate change. Cincinnati needs to reduce the amount of organics residents and businesses are sending to the landfill. The two strategies that have the most positive environmental, social and health impacts are:

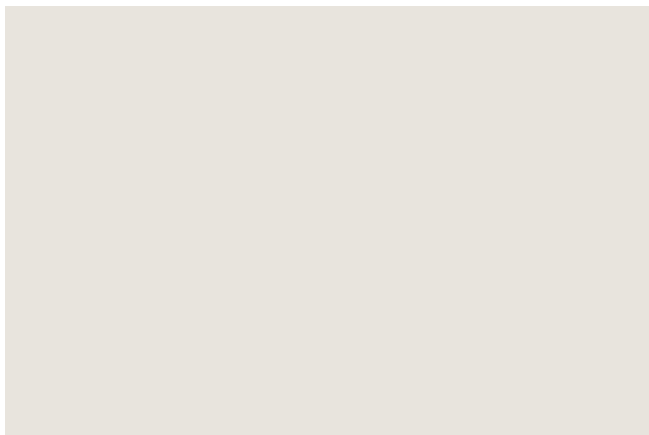
- Prevent throwing away perfectly good food
- Recover wasted food that can be transformed or repurposed

The City needs to prioritize these surplus-food strategies in conjunction with leveraging public-private partnerships and city systems to minimize organics in our landfill. With a food insecurity rate of 33%, Cincinnati must become a better steward of our resources and each other. By taking robust action, we can support both the environment and our citizens.

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Continue to support local food rescue, food security & food justice organizations through establishment & support of food access points and increased donation infrastructure for collection, transformation, & distribution of surplus food	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Expand food waste prevention education and best practices for residential and business sectors	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

See [Zero Waste Focus Area](#) for details on composting



Add image/caption. Suggest featuring food rescue organization

Jobs

Goal

Increase quantity of jobs in food and agriculture sectors by 20% by 2028

BASELINE YEAR(S)

TBD

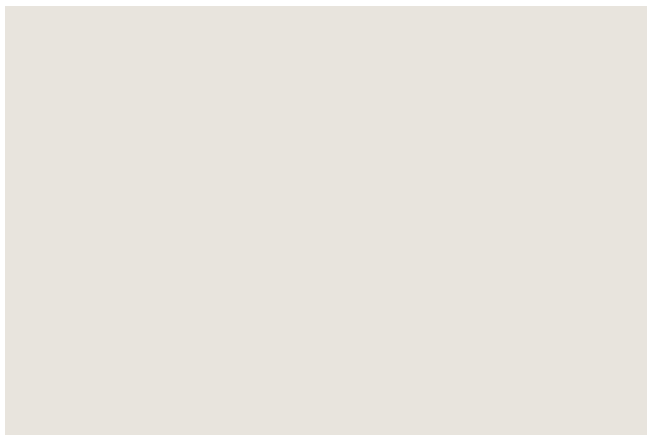
DATA SOURCE(S)

TBD

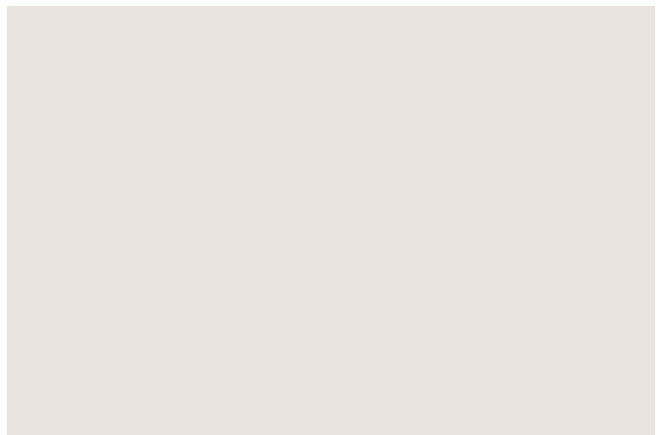
Strategy

Create pathways to growth and ownership for farmers and food entrepreneurs in city food and agriculture sectors.

As discussed earlier, job opportunity was a topic that came up in multiple focus areas and was consistently identified by community members as being very important. Within the Food Focus Area, the job discussion centered around training, employment and wages and creation of a variety of spaces in which to do actual growing within an urban context. The average age of all farmers in the U.S is 57.5 years old, highlighting the need for younger people to enter into the food space from both direct food production/growing and reuse/redistribution/value-add aspects. Making a living wage is key to retention and a healthy livelihood, and considerations of adapting to climate change across all aspects of food production are key to ensure an everlasting food source.



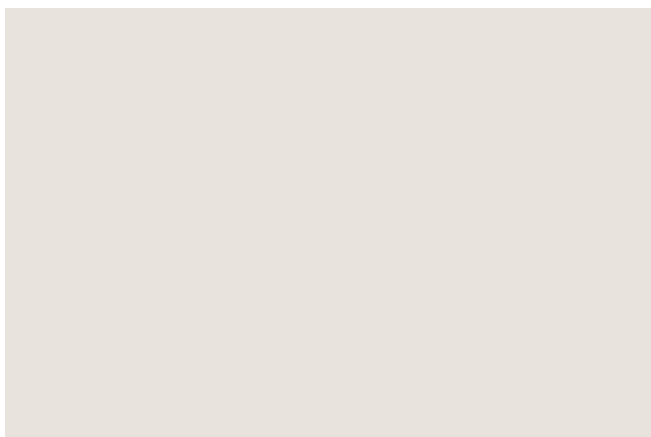
Add image/caption. Suggest image from Climate Corps or AgriCorps



Add image/caption. Suggest higher ed agriculture classroom

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Grow employment opportunities & training for youth (ie: food gleaning & redistribution in their neighborhoods, Climate Corps, AgriCorps, etc.)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Develop career pathways & higher education opportunities with links to create living-wage farmer & food sector jobs	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Train farmers and gardeners to increase success, including adaptation to a changing climate	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Add image/caption. Suggest gardener education classroom



Green Cincinnati Plan
2023

FOCUS AREA

Mobility





FOCUS AREA

Mobility

Accessible and sustainable transportation and mobility options.

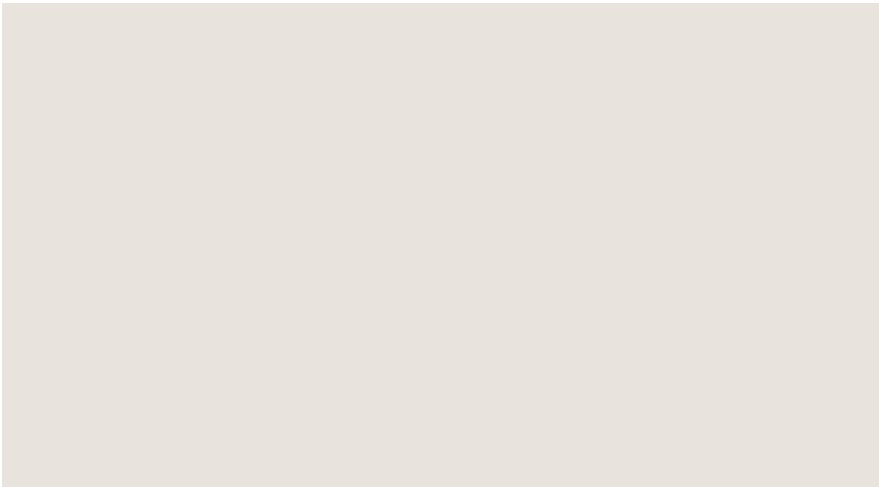
Vision

Prioritize people by building sustainable, safe, and accessible mobility options that meet the needs of people who live, work, or visit Cincinnati.

From the Mobility Focus Area Chair

Over the last decade, how we connect people across Cincinnati to jobs, education, health care and all that our region has to offer has been one of the most important policy issues facing local leaders. We’ve made tremendous progress in that time—thanks in part to the guidance of the previous Green Cincinnati Plan (GCP)—but there is still so much work to do. Partners in every corner of the community—local government and elected leaders, the business and civic community, and everyday Cincinnati-ans—have driven, and continue to drive, this work. And their efforts show:

- Massive new federal funding programs
- Passage of Issue 7 to expand public transit
- Rapidly growing CROWN bike trail network
- Groundswell of support for pedestrian safety initiatives



Add image/caption. Suggest public transportation or pedestrian safety

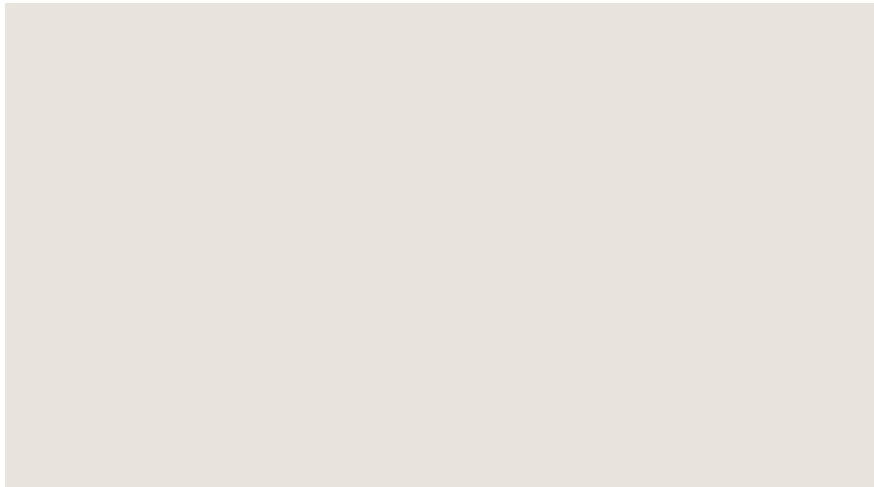
FOCUS AREA CHAIR



MOBILITY FOCUS AREA CHAIR
Pete Metz

ORGANIZATION
Director, The Connected Region
Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber

With all this momentum, there is no better time to be doubling down on our work. Over the last year we've engaged transportation leaders and the community to shape the Mobility section of the updated GCP.



Add image/caption. Suggest showing Crown Bike trail network

Across those conversations we heard a vision for making Cincinnati a place that prioritizes people by building sustainable, safe, and accessible mobility options that meet the needs of people who live, work, or visit Cincinnati.

Much of the work of building a transportation system to achieve this vision will happen outside of City Hall. This plan attests to the City's support for those initiatives and organizations, and challenges them to think boldly about the type of system we're building.

Leading this effort has affirmed for me how far we've come, and how far so many in our community are ready and willing to push us in the future. Their voices and their advocacy will be critical to the success of these Mobility goals, and I'm appreciative of their engagement in this process.

EQUITY LIAISON



My Equity Liaison experience was like a Tale of Two Cities. Trying to bring two worlds or cities together. Assisting those with no transportation to jobs and entertainment in an effort to bring people and services to those who need them.

EQUITY LIAISON

Derrick L. Feagin

ORGANIZATION

President, South Cumminsville Community Council

NEIGHBORHOOD

South Cumminsville

Public Transit

Goal

Increase the number of passenger miles traveled using public transit 25% by 2030.

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2022

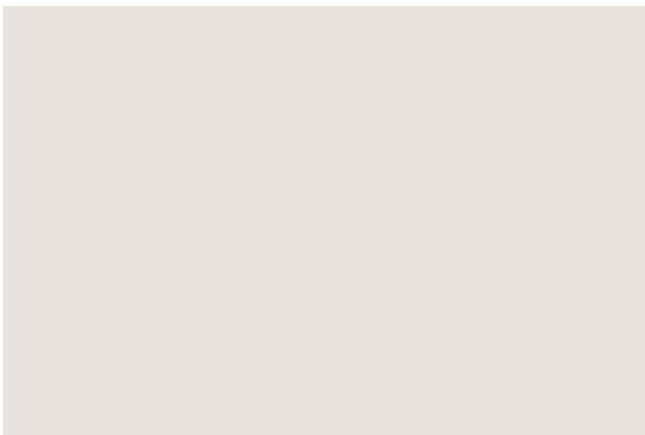
DATA SOURCE(S)

SORTA passenger data

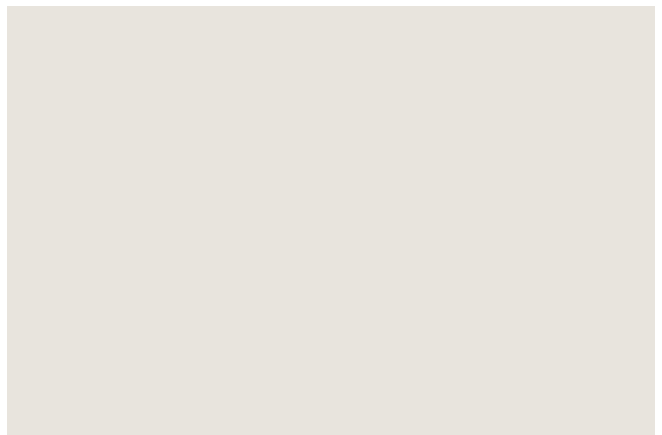
Strategy

Provide reliable public transportation options and an improved rider experience to connect residents to the places where they need to go.

Cincinnati will need its residents to transition away from single-passenger vehicles and shift to public transportation if the city is to achieve its carbon goals. This shift will only occur if residents view public transportation as a reliable and convenient alternative. Bus routes must connect people to the places that they need to go when they need to get there. Improving access to public transportation corridors, as well as the amenities public transportation offers, will drive increased ridership.



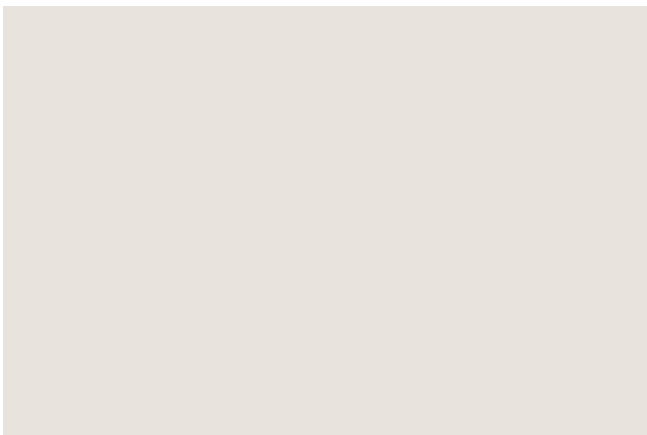
Add image/caption. Suggest Cincinnati public transport (bus)



Add image/caption. Bus stop or shelter

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Continue to design bus routes and bus stop shelters to ensure convenient and consistent service with reliable connections	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Develop regional bus rapid transit routes along key corridors	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Explore the use of HR incentives to encourage public transit use	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Create more neighborhood mobility networks and transit hubs where residents can connect by bike, walking, and bus	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Explore the expanded use of rail for regional transit	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Add image/caption. Show neighborhood mobility network

Zero Emissions Vehicles

Goal

Increase the utilization of zero emission vehicles in the city to 25% by 2030

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2022

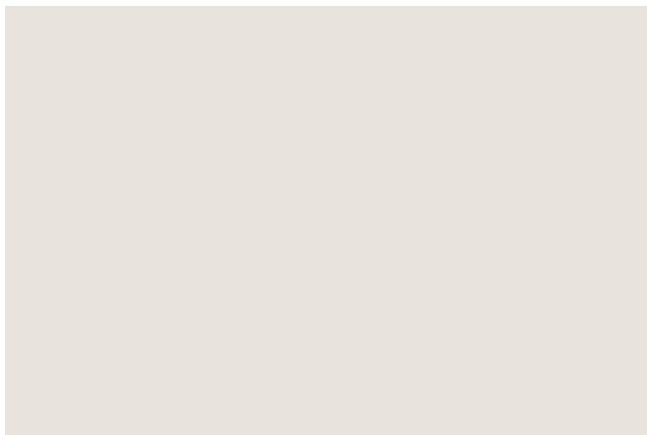
DATA SOURCE(S)

SORTA fleet data, EV registrations (Drive Ohio), Red Bike

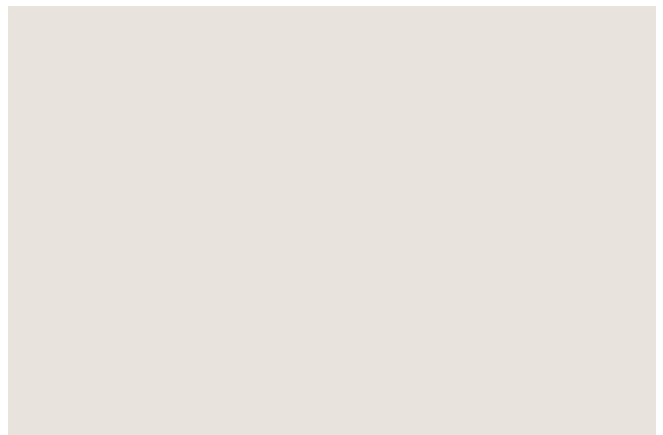
Strategy

Support the transition to zero emission mobility options

Zero-emissions mobility options will play an important role in helping the City achieve its carbon goals. To support that transition, the City must ensure that all who live, work, or visit have access to electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure. Providing access to infrastructure is especially important to residents in multi-family housing or who live in single family homes without driveways. In addition to private vehicles, it is important to support transportation providers and other businesses in their efforts to transition to zero-emissions mobility options.



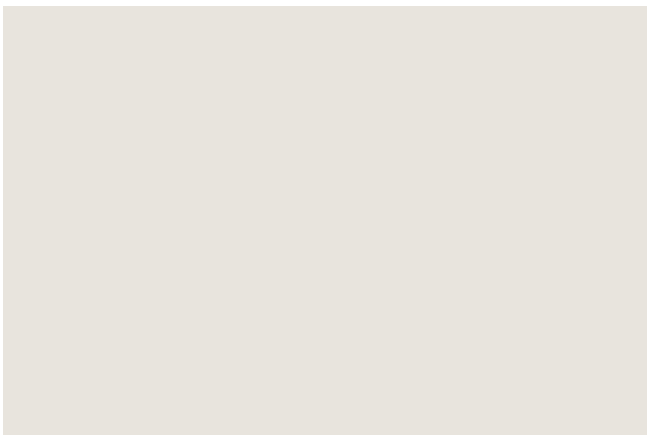
Add image/caption. Public charging station



Add image/caption. Carbon free bus

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Install public, streetside electric vehicle (EV) charging stations	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Develop policies to ensure that vehicle charging infrastructure is available to all residents including those in multi-family buildings and in homes without driveways	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Continue to support Metro in its efforts to invest in clean fuels buses (electric/hydrogen)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Develop policies and incentives to ensure new construction is prepared for EV charging	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Add image/caption. New construction with EV charging

Bicycling & Walking

Goal

Increase the number of residents within 0.25 mile of safe bike and pedestrian infrastructure 50% from 2022 levels by 2030.

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2022

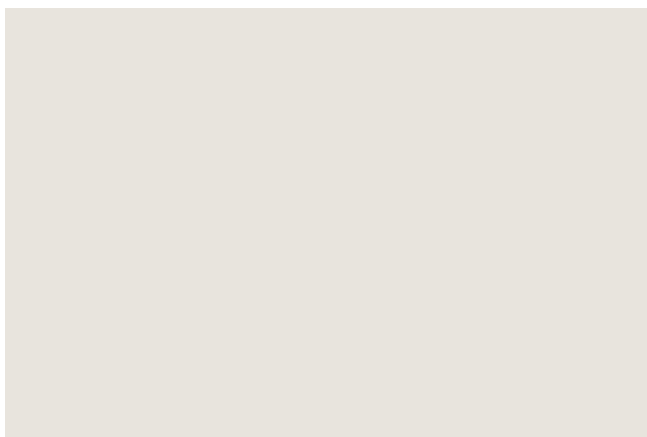
DATA SOURCE(S)

Tri-State Trails

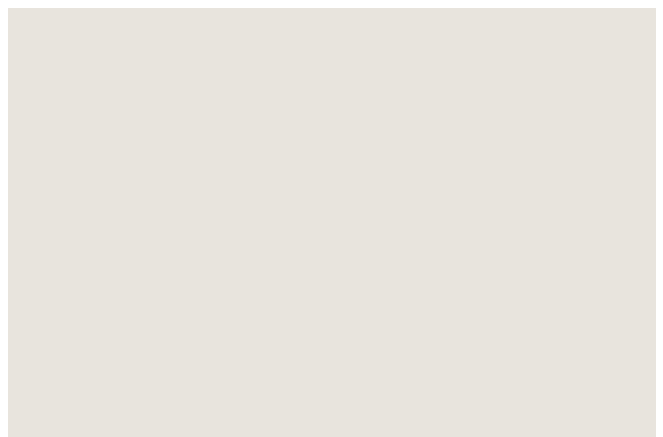
Strategy

Improve bike and pedestrian connectivity so that residents can safely access the places they need to go.

While the City has made substantial improvements to bike and pedestrian infrastructure over the past several years, significant work still needs to be done. Walking or biking between different neighborhoods remains unsafe in some parts of Cincinnati. The City should support public and private investments in trails, bike lanes, and sidewalks that create connectivity. Additionally, the City must ensure that people in all its neighborhoods have access to these resources. In doing so, Cincinnati can create a safe and accessible bike and pedestrian infrastructure that provides a viable alternative to driving.



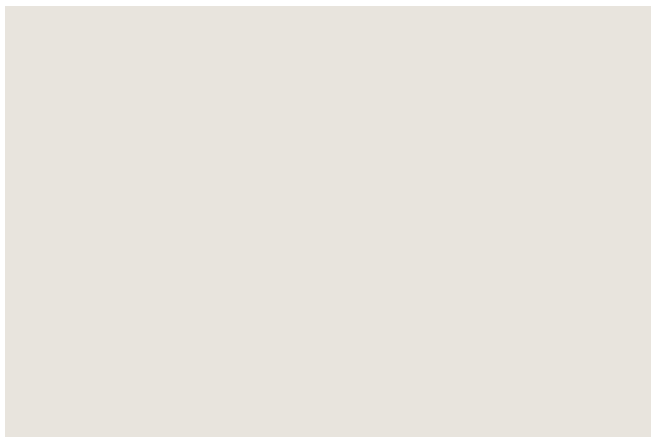
Add image/caption. Suggest image bike lane



Add image/caption. Suggest showing sidewalk connectivity

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Continue to invest in complete streets to improve connectivity between neighborhoods	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Continue to improve sidewalk connectivity and maintenance in neighborhoods where connectivity/walkability is lacking	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Complete the CROWN bike network and connect it to neighborhoods	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Expand access to Red Bike’s traditional and electric bikes to more neighborhoods and increase participation in the Red Bike Go Program	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Continue to leverage Vision Zero to install bike lanes and traffic calming measures to reduce speeds and improve safety	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Add image/caption. Suggest image Red Bike in Cincinnati

Connected Communities

Goal

Build a policy framework that supports the creation of connected communities

BASELINE YEAR(S)

TBD

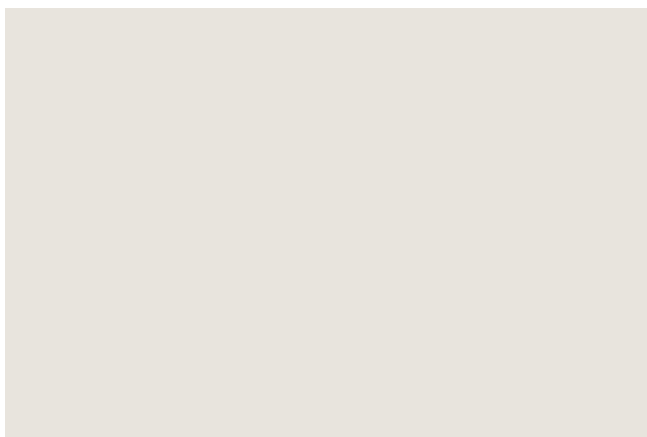
DATA SOURCE(S)

TBD

Strategy

Modify land use regulations to support development along transit corridors

Increasing housing density along transit corridors can expand public transportation use and reduce reliance on single-passenger vehicles. Single-family housing dominates many neighborhoods throughout the city. By modifying existing land-use regulations to allow for multi-family developments, the City can create vibrant residential and business areas. This approach makes it easier to design public transportation routes that encourage ridership by connecting people with the places where they need to go.



Add image/caption. Suggest multi-family housing near public transit

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Promote “15 Minute Neighborhoods” with mixed residential (including multi-family) and commercial zoning to increase transit connectivity as well as density and affordability	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Embrace zoning reform that increases density near transit, reduces or eliminates parking requirements across the city, and minimizes the use of surface parking lots	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Green Cincinnati Plan
2023

FOCUS AREA

Natural Environment





FOCUS AREA

Natural Environment

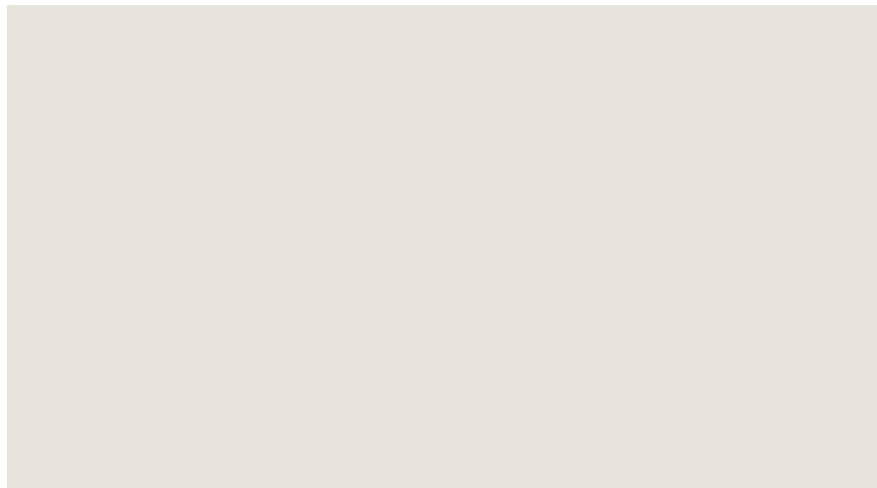
Enhancing ecosystems and green infrastructure to improve health and well being.

Vision

Cincinnati will invest in the creation, preservation, and regeneration of ecosystems and green infrastructure through policy and resource allocation to improve and protect the health and well-being of our diverse residents and the natural environment in which we live. We will inspire people, government, and business to value the natural environment to drive transformation.

From the Natural Environment Focus Area Chair

I was deeply honored to be asked to Chair the Natural Environment Subcommittee for the 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan (GCP). I also want to recognize the immense contributions of my partners, Amanda Testerman of the Office of Environment and Sustainability and Margaux Roberts, our Equity Committee liaison. The work of our subcommittee truly would not have been possible without them.



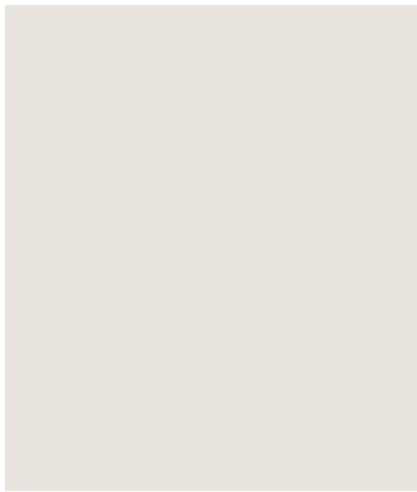
Add image/caption. Suggest tree planting to highlight tree canopy or newer city greenspace

I also chaired this subcommittee for the 2018 GCP, and feel gratified by the amount of progress we've made over the last five years. However, with the growing impact of climate change—and the growing recognition of past inequities—we've got more work to do...and we will do it. Our

Mayor, Council, and city administration are united in their passion and energy to work, along with many willing partners, to make real and enduring progress.

Our subcommittee focused on all of the natural resources that make up Cincinnati's environment and the challenges they face: water quality, overland flooding, greenspace, tree canopy, and air quality.

Through three public meetings we gathered knowledge and suggestions (in-person and online) from residents, organizations, local experts, and companies across Cincinnati. Both the GCP and our committee benefited from the tremendous interest shown by the public. There is simply no substitute for the lived experience of our residents and their knowledge of threats and opportunities.



Add image/caption. Suggest showing people utilizing restored Mill Creek

Using this valuable input, our subcommittee developed aggressive Goals, Strategies, and Actions to protect and improve the health of our environment and residents. In particular, we focused on providing benefits to our priority communities which have suffered disproportionately in the past.

I work every day on the Mill Creek, which 25 years ago was declared “the most endangered urban stream in North America.” National experts said it would be impossi-

ble to restore it. Today, the stream is roaring back to life and is home to bald eagles, ospreys, game fish, beaver, and many others. We host hundreds of people every year on paddling, pedaling, and fishing trips along its shores. Because of this, I know firsthand that we CAN do this. We can restore and protect our natural environment and make its many benefits available to ALL of our residents. I look forward to working with you over the next five years to achieve—and surpass—these goals.

FOCUS AREA CHAIR



**NATURAL ENVIRONMENT
FOCUS AREA CHAIR**

Dave Schmitt

ORGANIZATION
Executive Director
Mill Creek Alliance

EQUITY LIAISON



Most importantly, that the voice of the people isn't lost in the political interests but true equity is the overall goal to create communities that thrive.

EQUITY LIAISON
Margaux Roberts

ORGANIZATION
Climate Safe Neighborhood
Community Organizer,
Groundwork Ohio River Valley

NEIGHBORHOOD
Bond Hill

Tree Canopy

Goal

Maintain 40% urban tree canopy while expanding canopy to 40% residential, 25% mixed-use/industrial, and 10% Central Business District.

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2020

DATA SOURCE(S)

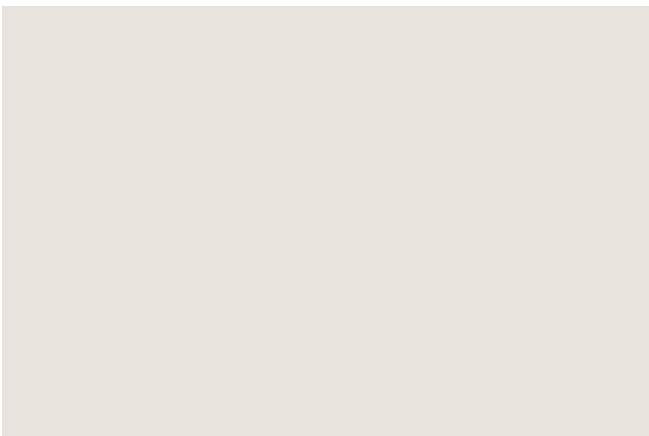
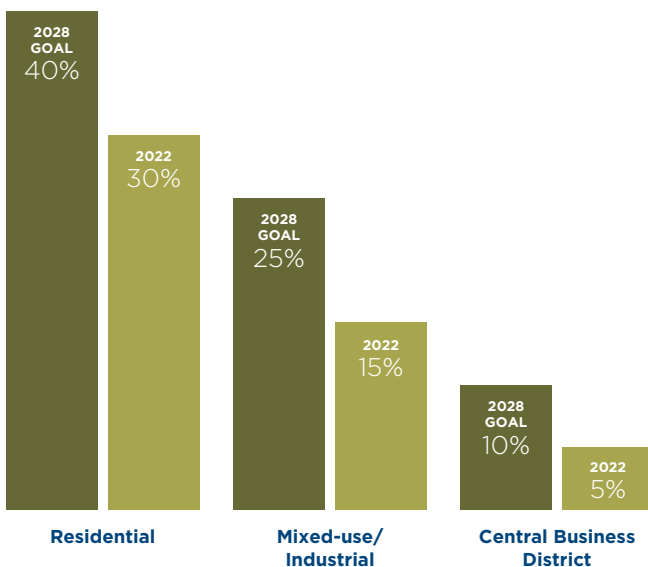
Tree Canopy Assessment and Cincinnati Parks Urban Tree Canopy Dashboard

Strategy

Improve preservation, health, and maintenance of trees in existing urban canopy

In 2020 the Cincinnati Park Board sponsored a study of urban tree canopy. The study showed the overall urban tree canopy of the city was 40%, but it also highlighted the inequity of urban tree canopy between neighborhoods. Areas with lower tree canopy experience increased heat island effect, have reduced stormwater retention, and increased areas of overland flooding. In addition to maintaining the existing tree canopy, the City must continue efforts to plant trees in neighborhoods with low tree canopy to reduce the heat island effect, increase native species, and offset carbon emissions.

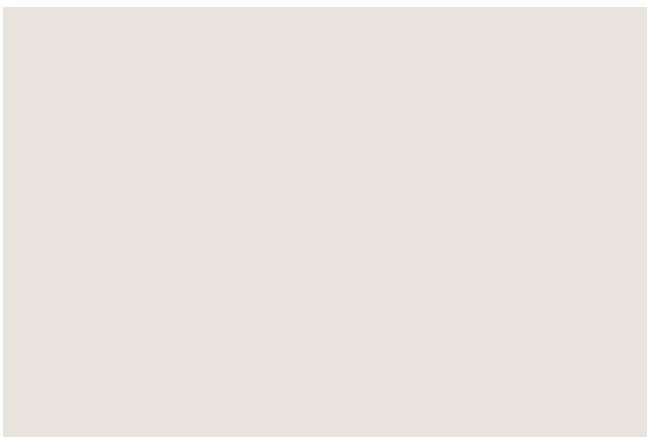
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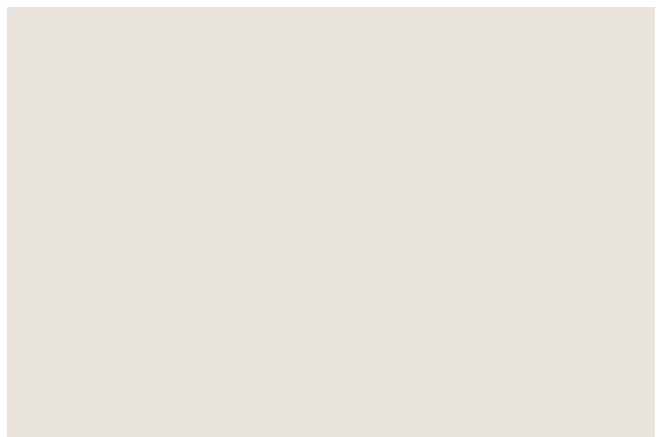
Add image/caption. Suggest image of City tree planting

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Focus city tree planting in neighborhoods with highest heat island effect as measured in the Climate Equity Indicators Report or most recent data	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Provide incentives and support for the use of carbon crediting and/or carbon offset program to fund tree planting, maintenance, land conservation, and forest rehabilitation	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Plant more native tree species through education with non-profits, nurseries, and schools	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Implement policies that protect existing trees during development efforts	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Add image/caption. Suggest native tree example



Add image/caption. Suggest protecting tree during construction

Air Quality

Goal

Improve air quality so that Air Quality Index “Healthy Days” are increased by 30% by 2028.

BASELINE YEAR(S)

5-year average 2018-2022

DATA SOURCE(S)

US EPA Air Quality Index Report

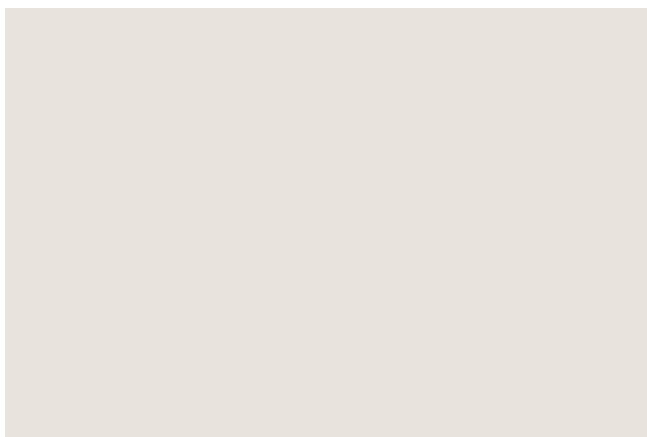
Strategy

Increase air quality studies and education and reduce pollution from air emissions

Many Cincinnati residents experience poor outdoor air quality which contributes to adverse health conditions, including asthma and lung disease. In 2022, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) registered 181 days with “moderate,” “unhealthy for sensitive groups,” or “unhealthy” air quality index ratings in Cincinnati. Ozone and Particulate Matter (PM) 2.5 contribute significantly to these low ratings. Other factors include vehicle emissions and industrial emissions. High air temperatures and ultraviolet radiation further exacerbate poor air quality. The City can improve air quality for residents by:

- Reducing the emissions generated within the city from buildings and gas-powered equipment
- Increasing the tree canopies and natural corridors surrounding neighborhoods

We need more data and further studies to fully quantify the extent of poor air quality in Cincinnati’s neighborhoods. To improve the health of residents, the City must engage and educate residents to understand and reduce sources of poor air quality.



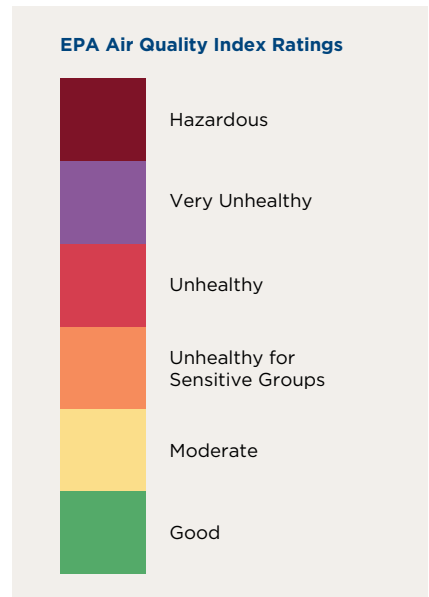
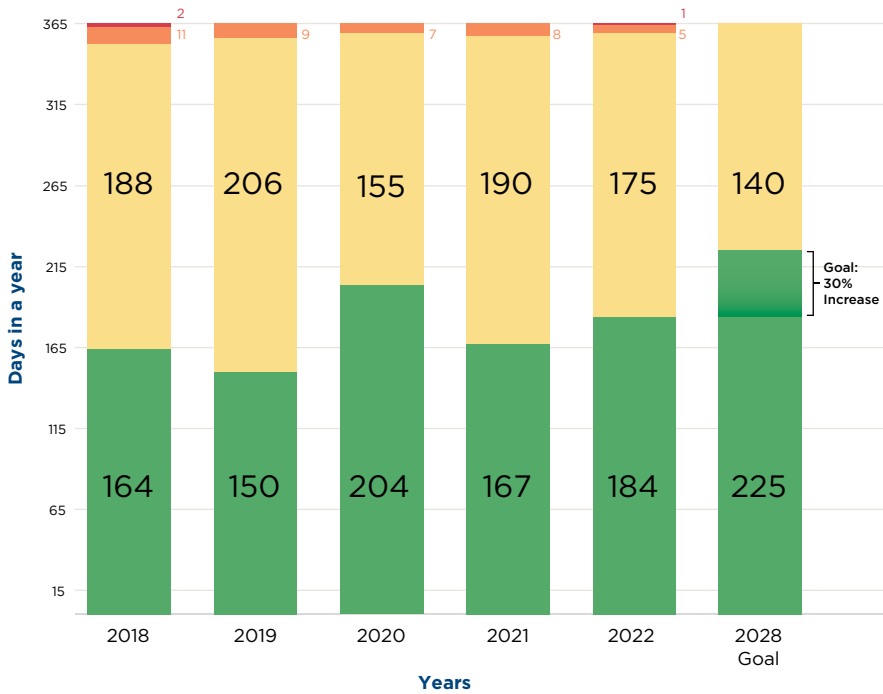
Add image/caption. Suggest image of natural corridor

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Expand monitoring of air quality and nuisance odors, incorporating citizen science in priority neighborhoods	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Provide services, resources, and education for residents in priority neighborhoods on air quality alert systems, sources of poor air quality, and air quality regulations	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Support and fund the development of natural corridors and tree barriers along streams and rivers, interstates and highways	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Strengthen air emissions regulations	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

See Mobility and Buildings & Energy Focus Areas for actions supporting the transition to clean technologies like electric vehicles and buildings, and renewable energy.

Air Quality Index Days Per Year in Cincinnati



Green Space

Goal

Increase access to greenspaces so that every resident has a greenspace within a .5 mile walk by 2028

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2022

DATA SOURCE(S)

Trust for Public Land ParkScore Index

Greenspace access

Percentage of Cincinnati residents living within a 10-min walk of a park/greenspace.



Strategy 1

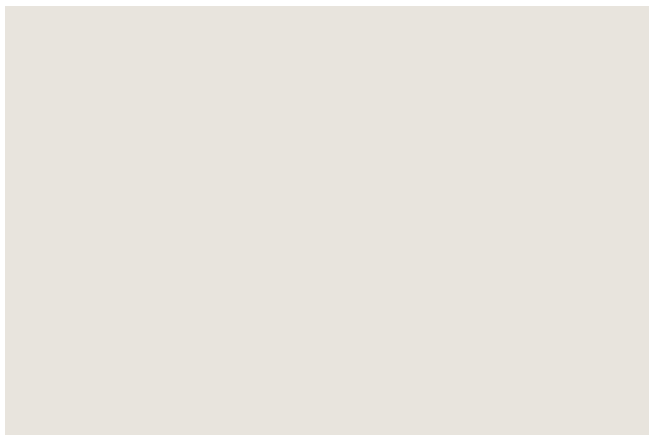
Increase the quantity and quality of greenspaces in neighborhoods with low distribution of greenspaces

Greenspaces in Cincinnati take various forms, including parks, outdoor recreation areas such as ball fields and playgrounds, and natural areas like forests and preserves. In 2022 the Trust for Public Land (TPL) ranked Cincinnati #4 in the nation on its ParkScore Index. The TPL determined the ranking by analyzing the City’s park systems for acreage, access, investment, amenities, and equity. While this ranking is encouraging, it also highlights the need to center equity in greenspace investment. Cincinnati can do this by:

- Providing access to greenspaces
- Increasing distribution in areas with low greenspaces
- Engaging youth and Black, indigenous, and people-of-color (BIPOC) communities in these spaces.

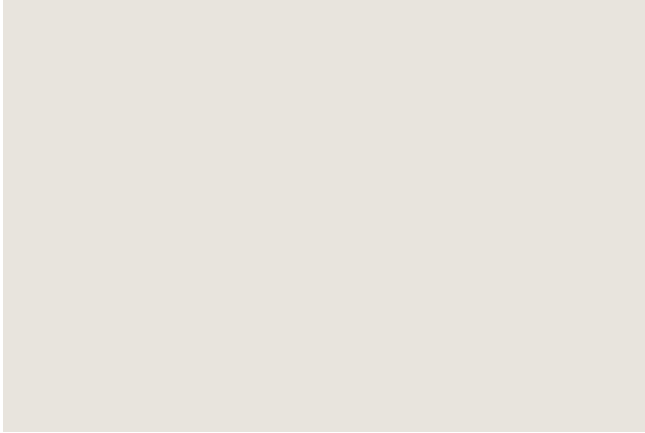
Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Create new greenspaces, including use of vacant properties and underused parking lots, ensuring that space will not be redeveloped	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Continue to improve infrastructure to increase walkability and access to greenspaces	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Grow greenspace workforce through youth and BIPOC involvement in natural area restoration and education	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Increase funding for maintenance of greenspaces	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Implement policies which promote and protect public greenspaces in new developments	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Add image/caption. Suggest image of urban greenspace

Green Space



Add image/caption. Invasives removal

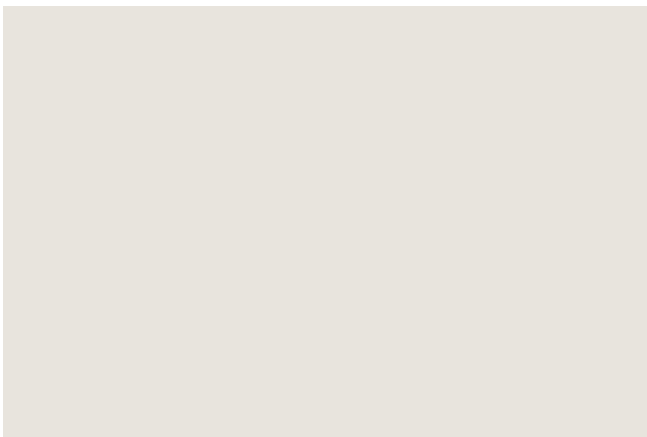
Strategy 2

Increase preservation and restoration of aquatic ecosystems & urban forests.

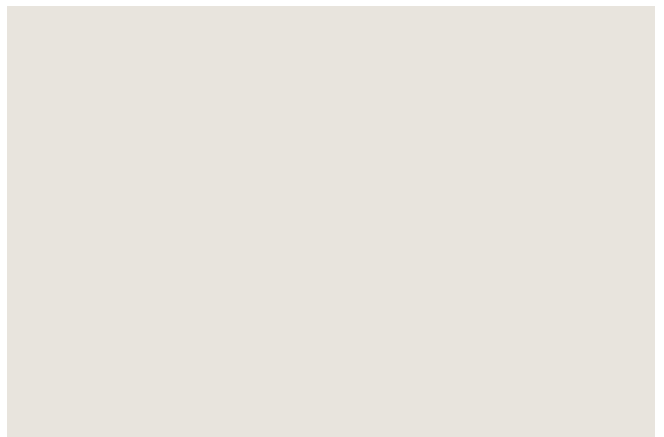
In addition to its highly developed and industrial areas, Cincinnati also boasts a variety of natural ecosystems, including the Ohio River; the Mill Creek and Little Miami watersheds; urban forests such as Mt. Airy, Burnet Woods, California Nature Preserve; and unnamed forested areas. These ecosystems provide multiple benefits like stormwater retention, reduced heat island effect, and public enjoyment. However, development, invasive plant and animal species, and pollution from combined sewer overflows and contaminated stormwater runoff threaten the health of these vital ecosystems. These threats are expected to increase in the coming years due to the impacts of climate change. The City must take action to prioritize and support the preservation of these ecosystems through policy, green infrastructure, and restoration.

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Remove invasive species and restore, maintain, and preserve forests, wetlands, riparian areas, and natural corridors along waterways, hillsides, and low canopy neighborhoods	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Implement policies that restrict development in forested and/or biodiverse areas	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Increase use of green infrastructure to mitigate the effects of stormwater, sewer overflows, overland flooding, and contaminated stormwater in waterways	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

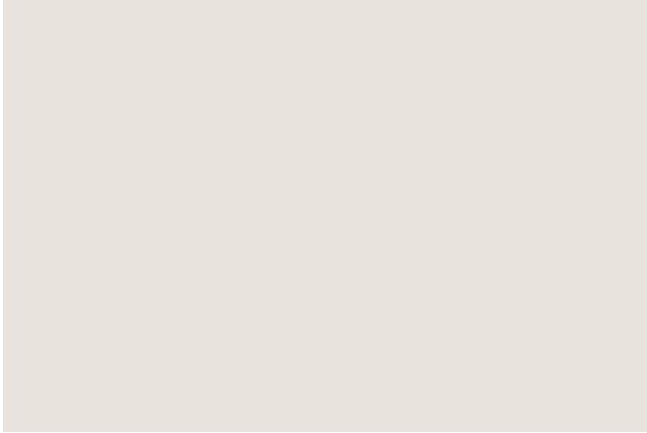


Add image/caption. Suggest image of watershed area

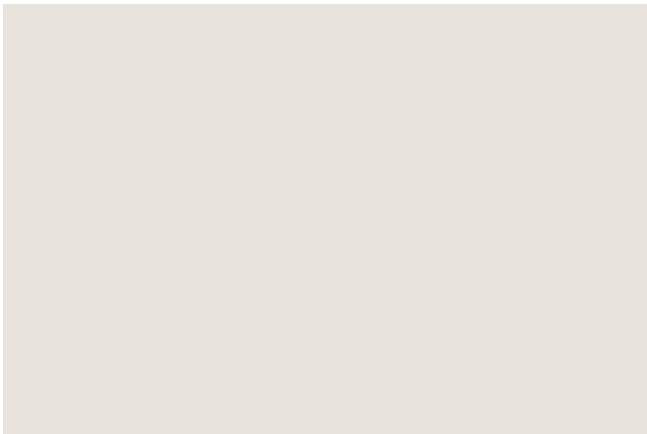


Add image/caption. Suggest image of urban forest

Green Space



Add image/caption. Polinator garden



Add image/caption. Low mow or no mow area

Strategy 3

Increase biodiversity and health of native species in the City

Hamilton County is home to five federally endangered plant and animal species and to more than 30 State-of-Ohio endangered species. But, we don't have enough data to know which species can be found—or can live—in Cincinnati. Therefore, the City must support the completion of a biodiversity assessment to understand the health of city ecosystems and prioritize conservation of vulnerable ecosystems. Engaging the public in native habitat building on private land can also support the health of plant, animal, and insect species throughout the city.

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Complete Biodiversity Assessment for Cincinnati, incorporating citizen science	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Support pollinator gardens, native plants, and education, including allowing the use of native grasses and pollinator plants in residential areas, and Low-Mow or No-Mow practices	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Reduce pesticide and fertilizer use/over-use through education, regulation, and innovation	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Green Cincinnati Plan
2023

FOCUS AREA

Resilience & Climate Adaptation





FOCUS AREA

Resilience & Climate Adaptation

Anticipating, preparing, and responding to the challenges of changing conditions.

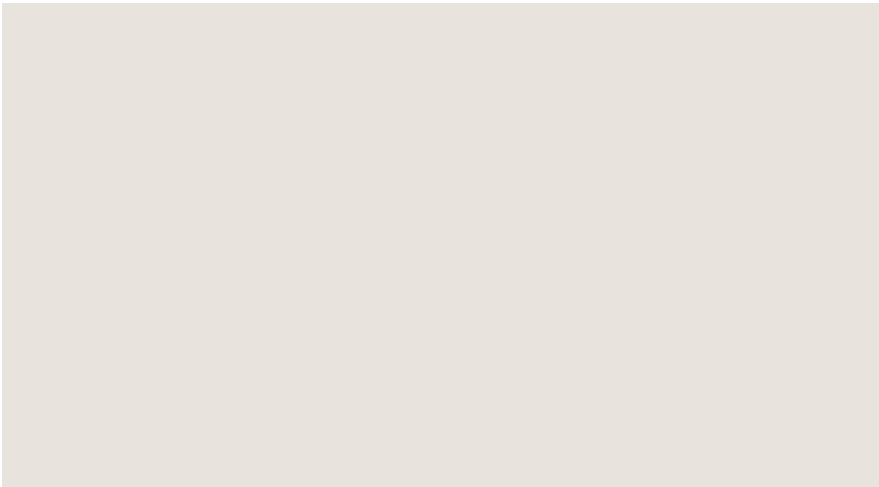
Vision

We are a city that will take bold action to heal past environmental, racial, and economic injustices, and that will continue to adapt, innovate, and respond to vulnerabilities to create a climate-ready, resilient, and socially cohesive community

From the Resilience & Climate Adaption Focus Area Chair

What is resilience? You can see it in the untapped potential of our young people; mothers who take multiple buses to buy groceries; residents that fight stormwater with guerrilla green infrastructure; and the urgency to build trust and partner with our frontline neighborhoods. This subcommittee started at the center, with equity, and with those most at risk from a changing climate—our low-income and/or communities of color. We are looking forward with ideas that could correct yesterday’s environmental and social injustices. We are making ourselves ready to adapt to a changing climate by bolstering our collective resilience. In the 2023 GCP, we have made Resilience a dedicated pillar as well as a distinct Focus Area.

Climate Safe Neighborhoods, a program of Groundwork Ohio River Valley in partnership with Green Umbrella and the Office of Environment and



Add caption - image related to climate safe neighborhoods

EQUITY LIAISON



I want these neighborhoods to truly become sponges, become teaching laboratories for community members (esp youth), and help spur economic development in these communities.

EQUITY LIAISON

Tyeisha A. Cole

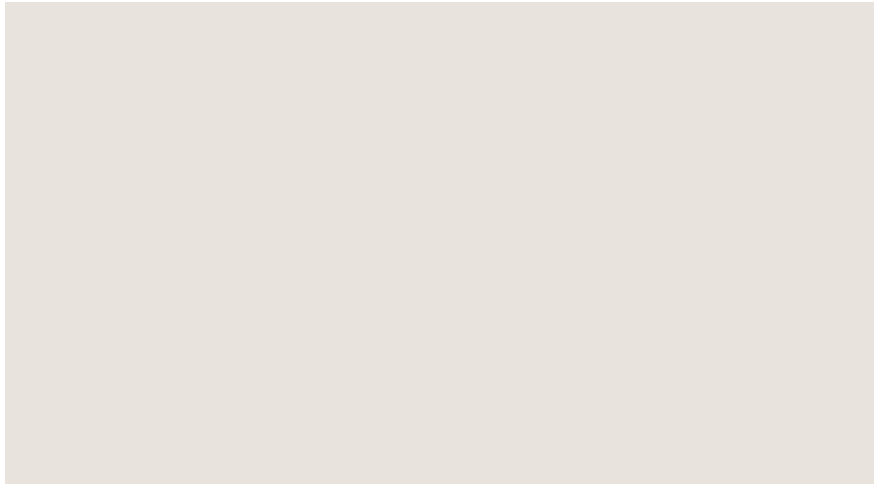
ORGANIZATION

Climate Action Coordinator
Green Umbrella

NEIGHBORHOOD

Millvale & West Price Hill

Sustainability (OES), has been our North Star for outreach and engagement. Paid equity liaisons have ensured that our process reached those traditionally left out by the sustainability movement. Youth voices have been heard, languages translated, and hard topics discussed. Over seventy people provided input for the Resilience Subcommittee, and partner organizations worked with city government to distill feedback.



Add caption - something positive about helping neighborhoods/families recover from storm damage?

Climate change is amplifying our ancestors' mistakes by doubling down on issues of infrastructure, public health, access to nature, and other problems perpetuated by racist and classist systems. Though ominous, we see opportunity—a chance to be proactive, prepare for the unexpected, and put resources into righting historical wrongs through green jobs, policy, and the equitable distribution of funding. This is the task we have chosen, and have been chosen for. Join us.

FOCUS AREA CHAIR



**RESILIENCE &
CLIMATE ADAPTATION
FOCUS AREA CHAIR**

Tanner Yess

ORGANIZATION

Co-Executive Director
Groundwork Ohio River Valley

EQUITY LIAISON



I hope resiliency centers can come to fruition. Or we can add more funding to community/recreation centers.

EQUITY LIAISON

Phillip Marshall

NEIGHBORHOOD

South Cumminsville

Stormwater & Heat Adaptation

Goal

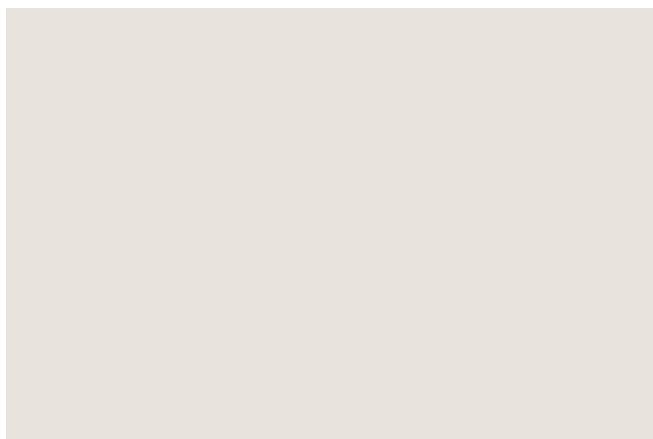
Complete 25 green infrastructure projects by 2028 in extreme heat and overland flood vulnerable communities

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2022

DATA SOURCE(S)

US EPA Office of Community Revitalization, US EPA Green Infrastructure Program, US EPA Smart Growth Program, US EPA Urban Heat Island Reduction Program, US EPA Environmental Justice Screening Tool; Climate and Economic Justice Screen; Climate Safe Neighborhoods; Climate Equity Indicators Report; Hamilton County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan; MSDGC Environmental Sustainability Report; Living With Landslides



Add image/caption. Suggest green infrastructure example

Strategy

Reduce extreme heat, overland flooding, landslides, and water-pollution vulnerabilities by incentivizing, improving, and increasing green infrastructure and other mitigating methods.

To be resilient against extreme heat, overland flooding, sewer backups/overflows, landslides, and water pollution, the City must increase green infrastructure.

“Green infrastructure” means using natural features or planned ecological systems to manage water by mimicking the natural water cycle. Examples of green infrastructure include:

- Green roofs
- Bioswales
- Green medians
- Wetlands
- Parks
- Permeable pavements
- Landscape gardens

Green infrastructure not only manages storm water exceptionally well, but it is also excellent at mitigating extreme heat. Other methods to tackle extreme heat include, for example, equitable access to air conditioning and the use of heat reflective surfaces.

In contrast to green infrastructure, the urban built environment includes all the physical elements of the places people work and live, such as roads, buildings, houses, bridges, parks, open spaces, and infrastructure (sewer systems, water and power lines, etc.). This built environment sometimes removes or tries to control many natural features, leading to unintended consequences for both people and the urban environment.

For example, hardscapes are large areas with impervious surfaces and gray infrastructure refers to the channelization of natural streams and runoff areas. Hardscapes and gray infrastructure with aging or limited capacity have amplified the effects of extreme storms. The excess water that runs off of discharges from hardscapes and gray infrastructure during heavy storms creates overland flooding, sewer backups, and sewer overflows.

These unmitigated storm water events pollute our recreational and potable water supplies, and they have had a direct effect on hillside instability, result-

ing in more frequent landslides. Large areas with reduced vegetation have also exacerbated extreme heat, creating what is referred to as “the heat island effect.”

The City must recognize and adapt to these climate vulnerabilities now, especially because these vulnerabilities predominantly occur in sensitive land use areas and priority communities. Green infrastructure at multiple scales presents a resilient set of cross-cutting solutions that both promote the natural environment and allow for positive economic and social changes within the existing built environment.

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Incentivize green infrastructure projects in communities with extreme heat and flood vulnerabilities	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Equitably restructure sewer rates based on permeable land surface and other contributing factors	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Create a “sponge city” with more and diverse green infrastructure in public and residential places including green roofs, bioswales, green medians, wetlands, parks, permeable pavements, and landscape gardens	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Continue to decrease sewer backups, sewer overflows, and overland flooding (flash flooding) by supporting sewer infrastructure improvements in priority communities	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Partner with communities to identify opportunities to address property damage caused by overland flooding and hillside instability	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Ensure all rental housing has at least one room with adequate air conditioning	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Use heat reflective materials when appropriate (roads, parking surfaces, roofs. Etc)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

See [Natural Environment Focus Areas](#) for more green infrastructure actions

Community Planning & Social Cohesion

Goal

Complete five climate adaptation and resilience projects per year by 2028 that create 10 green jobs per project.

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2022

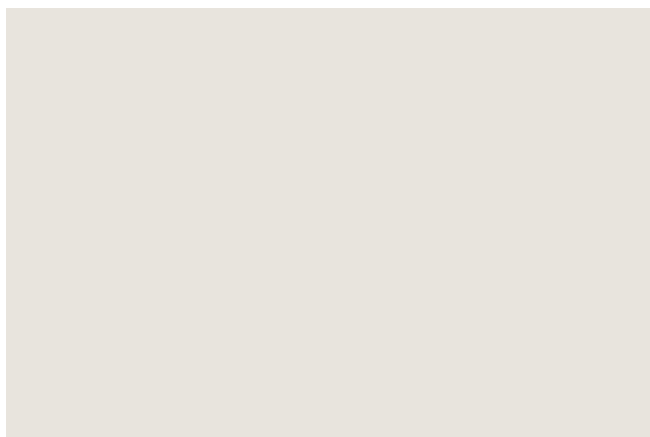
DATA SOURCE(S)

US EPA Office of Community Revitalization, US EPA Climate Change Adaptation Program, US EPA Environmental Justice Screening Tool; Climate and Economic Justice Screen; Climate Safe Neighborhoods; Climate Equity Indicators Report; Hamilton County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan; USDN Resilience Hubs Project; Report on the Impact of Climate Change on Migration

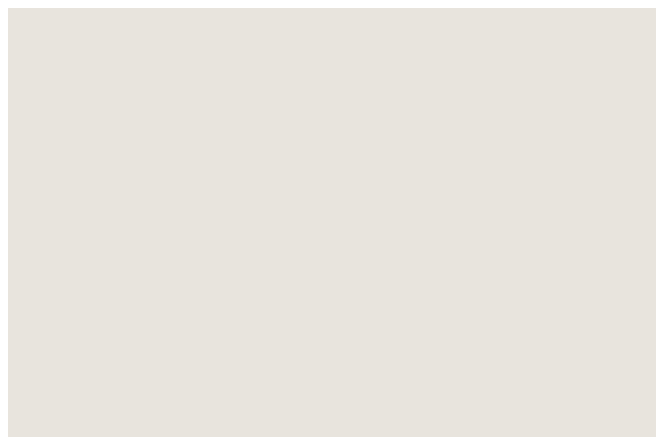
Strategy 1

Increase access, stability, and security of mixed-income housing and resilience hubs for local residents and anticipated climate migrants.

Social cohesion is the ability for community members to cooperate to achieve shared well-being. Strong social cohesion is one of the most important factors in successfully responding to climate change impacts. Yet, climate change can threaten social cohesion. Affordable housing—a cornerstone of social cohesion—is especially vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Ensuring the accessibility, stability, and security of affordable housing must be considered in resilient community planning. Reducing poverty and increasing economic mobility can ease the burden climate change places on social cohesion. For these reasons, the need to increase affordable housing underpins much of the socially resilient movement.



Add image/caption.



Add image/caption.

Resilience hubs promote social cohesion, public health, equity, and they can help save lives. Through community planning, these hubs can provide the necessary resources for communities to withstand climate challenges. Resilience hubs come in many forms:

- Community institutions enhanced to increase adaptive capacity
- Multi-faceted support centers for residents
- Educational spaces for emergency preparedness
- Place for coordinated resource distribution and other services in response to climate challenges.

The City and its neighborhoods can take advantage of existing institutions to create the necessary resilience hubs.

In addition to serving residents, Cincinnati must prepare for a possible influx of climate migrants. “Climate migrants” are people who leave their homes because of climate shocks and stressors. People in the most vulnerable situations (those who live in rural, tropical, or drought-stricken areas) will probably migrate first; however, no one can predict the exact origin, number, timing, or scale of climate migrants. Although Cincinnati has its own climate vulnerabilities, it will likely emerge as a climate haven. The City will need tools to adapt to the anticipated population increase.

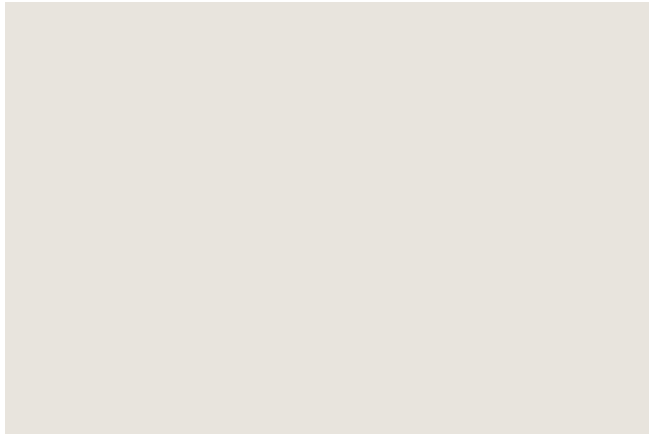
Priority Actions

Continue to implement affordable and mixed-income housing strategies to stabilize communities

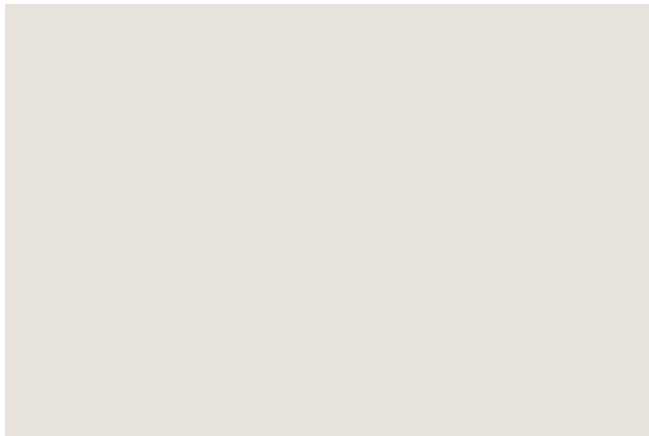
Develop neighborhood resilience hubs to foster community connection and increase emergency preparedness

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Continue to implement affordable and mixed-income housing strategies to stabilize communities	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Develop neighborhood resilience hubs to foster community connection and increase emergency preparedness	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Community Planning & Social Cohesion



Add image/caption.



Add image/caption.

Strategy 2

Utilize more community-based assessments, planning, programs, and training to reduce the social impacts of climate vulnerabilities.

Climate vulnerability describes the extent to which social systems are susceptible to climate change impacts. Priority communities, both within the City and across the country, have an increased sensitivity to climate change and a higher risk of impact. They are likely to have fewer resources to adapt and recover from climate events, but when informed and equipped, these residents can serve as a powerful force for change. The City needs to ensure that residents – both current and future – understand and are prepared for the social effects of climate change. Social impacts may include:

- Health effects and exposure to pollution
- Lack of fresh food access
- Limited availability and connectivity to jobs, education, entertainment, and recreation
- Migration and displacement of households
- Loss of community identity

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Fund and expand the Climate Safe Neighborhoods Program to cultivate the social infrastructure for resilient communities and provide green workforce training	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Develop a climate migration response plan	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Pollution Reduction & Adaptive Land Use

Goal

Revitalize 25 contaminated, industrial properties in neighborhoods of the Lower Mill Creek Valley by 2028.

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2022

DATA SOURCE(S)

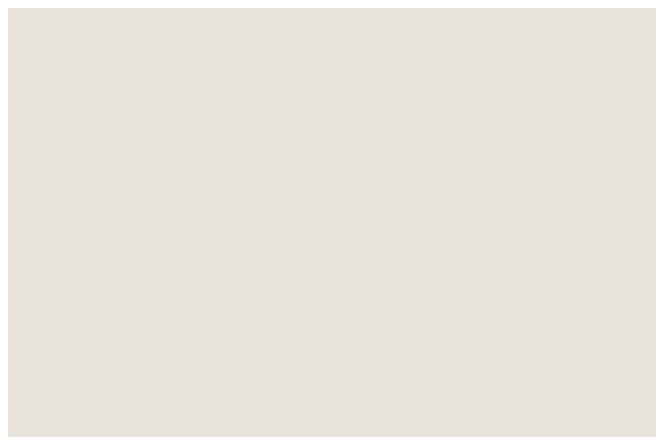
US EPA Brownfield and Land Revitalization Program; Ohio EPA Brownfield Program; US EPA Environmental Justice Screening Tool; Climate and Economic Justice Screen; Climate Safe Neighborhoods; Climate Equity Indicators Report; Hamilton County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan; MSDGC Environmental Sustainability Report; Living With Landslides; Cincinnati Choice Neighborhoods Transformation Plan; The Lower Price Hill Resurgency Plan; Revive Cincinnati: Neighborhoods of the Lower Mill Creek Valley; Made in Camp; Cincinnati Strategic Plan; Community Improvements Study Spring Grove Avenue Corridor; Project Cool It; A Naturally Industrious Revitalization Guide: The Beekman Street & Queen City Avenue Strategic Development Guidebook

Strategy 1

Mitigate pollution and clean up additional legacy brownfield sites to revitalize neighborhoods and result in healthier communities

Known pollutants as well as emerging pollutants of concern need to be reduced in the environment before our air, water, and land become prohibitively contaminated. Emerging pollutants are those chemicals that have been detected in environmental monitoring that may cause unexpected ecological or health impacts and typically are not regulated under current environmental laws. Significant emerging pollutants of concern include pharmaceuticals and personal care products as well as microplastics.

Due to previous industrial development patterns in Cincinnati, the City is home to numerous vacant and underutilized properties. These properties, referred to as “brownfields,” tend to be contaminated. The challenges of brownfields include:



Add image/caption.

- Presence of asbestos-containing materials and lead-based paint
- Lack of safety and increased vandalism
- Proximity to residential areas, parks, playgrounds, and flood zones
- Loss of tax revenue for the city.

The City has estimated that up to 500 potential brownfield properties may exist within priority communities of the Lower Mill Creek Valley alone.

Brownfield revitalization outcomes aligned with priority community needs and city planning can include stable, secure, and affordable living environments; energy-efficient, sustainable buildings that use renewable energy sources; economic investment; and job creation.

Benefits of brownfield revitalization for priority communities can include:

- Community pride and neighborhood anchors to strengthen place-making
- Increased economic value
- Better connectivity to fresh food, jobs, training, recreation, and green infrastructure
- Increased workforce capacity
- Creation of resilience hubs
- Climate adaptation to heat and flood vulnerabilities
- Healthier communities with reduced exposure to pollution.

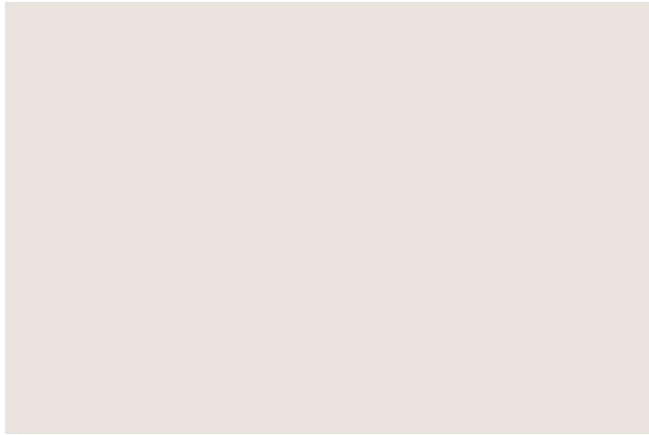
Priority Actions

Conduct inventories, assessments, and clean-ups of contaminated industrial sites, referred to as brownfields, in alignment with both community revitalization priorities and city- planned reuse

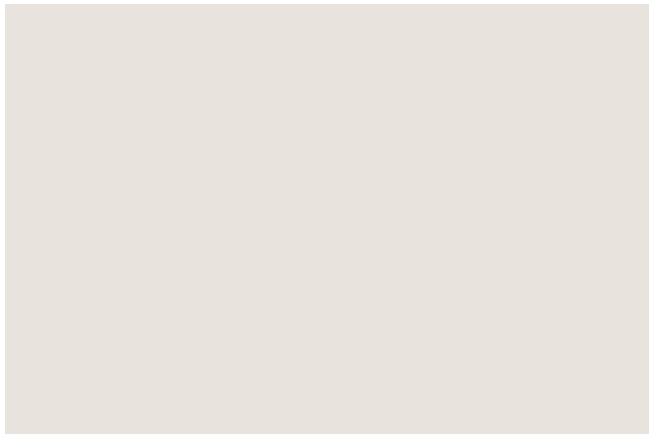
Address emerging pollutants, including pharmaceuticals and personal care products, that are endocrine-disrupting chemicals and microplastics

GCP PILLARS		ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES				
Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
●	●	●	●	●	●	●
●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Pollution Reduction & Adaptive Land Use



Add image/caption. Flood zone



Add image/caption. Hillside

Strategy 2

Increase protection of vulnerable lands and infrastructure through policy development

Urbanization has transformed land use in cities, and the degree of this transformation can impact how vulnerable communities and infrastructure are to climate change. Land use sensitivity is the main measurement of this vulnerability. Highly concentrated urban areas (e.g., heat islands and stormwater-impermeable hard-scapes), flood zones, and hillsides are examples of sensitive land use areas in Cincinnati.

Core infrastructure—including energy, water, transportation, and healthcare systems—is especially vulnerable to climate change in these sensitive land use areas due to the socio-economic impacts that an outage would have. This is particularly true in priority communities because residents need these services to survive.

For communities to be resilient to climate change, the City needs to develop policies, such as Low Impact Development, that protect vulnerable land use and core infrastructure without creating unsustainable consequences.

Priority Actions

Protect landslide-prone hillsides and overland flood risk zones through land development policies such as Low Impact Development

GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Green Cincinnati Plan
2023

FOCUS AREA

Zero Waste





FOCUS AREA

Zero Waste

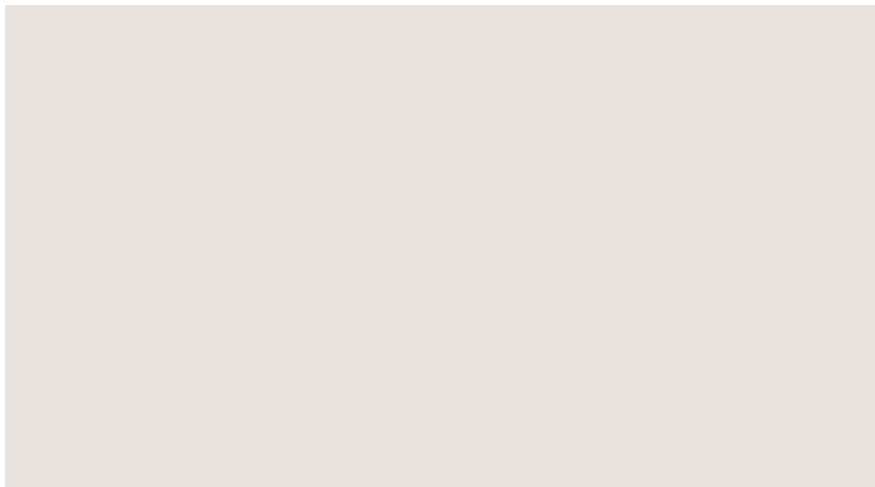
Protect human health and the environment by diverting waste from landfills.

Vision

Cincinnati will achieve 50% diversion city-wide by 2030, and city-wide zero waste (90% diversion) by 2040 through conservation of resources by responsible production, consumption, reuse, and recovery of materials without threat to human health and the environment.

From the Zero Waste Focus Area Chair

The Zero Waste section focuses on materials we touch every day—your aluminum can, paper coffee cup, plastic water bottle, and even the leaves in your backyard. By reducing, reusing, and recycling these ordinary materials, we conserve the resources used to create and transport the products to us. These materials can become feedstock for regional industry or a valuable amendment to replenish depleted soils.

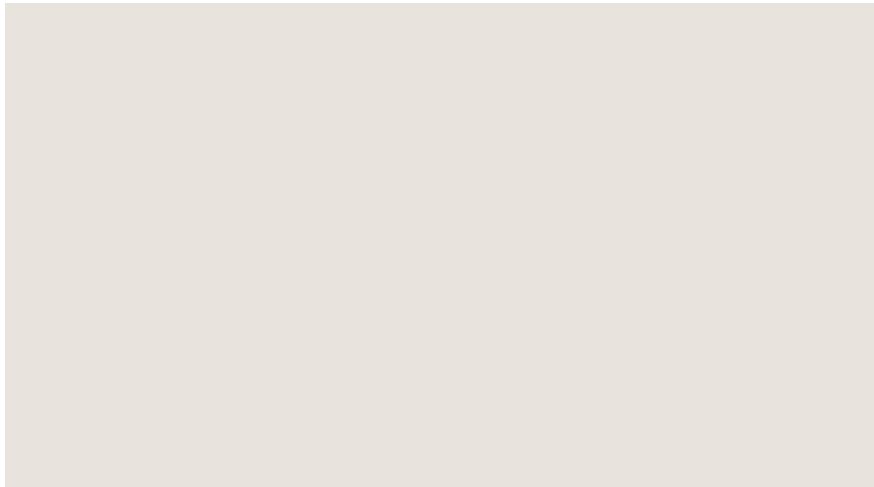


Add image/caption. Suggest City recycling services

Cincinnati residents currently divert 20% of our “waste” from the landfill. Recycling these materials into new products reduces greenhouse gasses and conserves resources. It’s equivalent to removing 7,400 cars from the road per year and safeguarding 102,980 trees and 1,200 tons of limestone, iron ore, and coal. Although current recycling and composting efforts have a major environmental impact, Cincinnati has the potential to

double or even triple that impact with improved programs and participation. Hundreds of Cincinnati residents provided input to create the goals and action steps outlined in this section. After multiple community input sessions as well as virtual engagement, the Zero Waste team narrowed down the focus and goals to those that would have the most impact in reducing climate change and improving equity and inclusion for all Cincinnati residents.

I am most excited about the potential to improve recycling accessibility for Cincinnati residents living in multi-family housing. This plan sets the impressive goal of increasing recycling by 50% among multi-family dwellings, public events, and emerging waste streams.



Add image/caption. Suggest image of city composting

The Zero Waste goals for Cincinnati align with the Hamilton County Solid Waste Plan Update 2024-2038 strategies of increasing outreach for residential recycling, expanding yard and food waste composting, and improving infrastructure for multi-family access.

This section presents ambitious goals and actions to reduce materials going to the landfill and use those resources to decrease our carbon footprint. However, achieving these goals will require all Cincinnati residents and businesses to engage and take action. We hope you will help us make the vision of a Zero Waste Cincinnati a reality.

FOCUS AREA CHAIR



NATURAL ENVIRONMENT
FOCUS AREA CHAIR

Michelle Balz

ORGANIZATION

Solid Waste Manager
Hamilton County R3Source

EQUITY LIAISON



My time with the GCP has been a unique and eye-opening experience. I have been allowed to peek into the machinations of administrative planning and I can assure you that we are in good hands.

EQUITY LIAISON

Darryl Franklin

NEIGHBORHOOD

North Fairmount

Recycling

Goal

Increase waste diversion
10% by 2028.

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2023

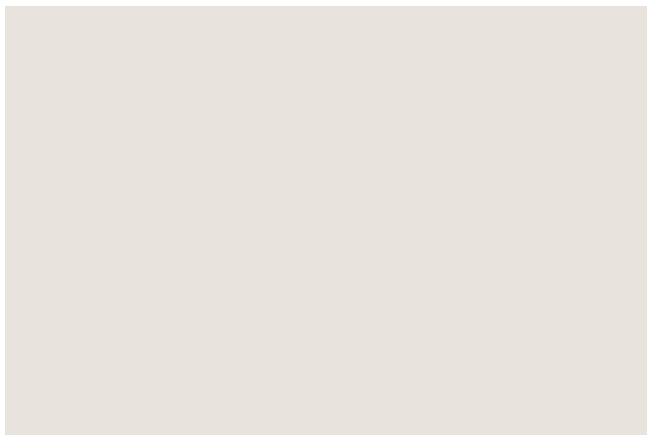
DATA SOURCE(S)

Hamilton County Solid Waste District

Strategy 1

Increase access to recycling for
multi-family building residents

Cincinnati has the oldest curbside recycling program in Ohio, established in 1989. Single family homes have fewer barriers to recycling, so the City has focused much of its efforts there. However, over 50% of Cincinnati residents live in multi-family dwellings. These individuals, typically in priority communities, do not have the same easy access to recycling. Instead, they need to own a car and transport recyclables to a drop-off location. The effort, time, and resources necessary to do this creates a significant barrier for most people. Furthermore, illegal dumping threatens the existence of these drop-offs. In this pilot we propose placing recycling dumpsters directly on site at multi-family residences—so residents have easy access—and piloting a valet and education service to help property managers control for contamination.

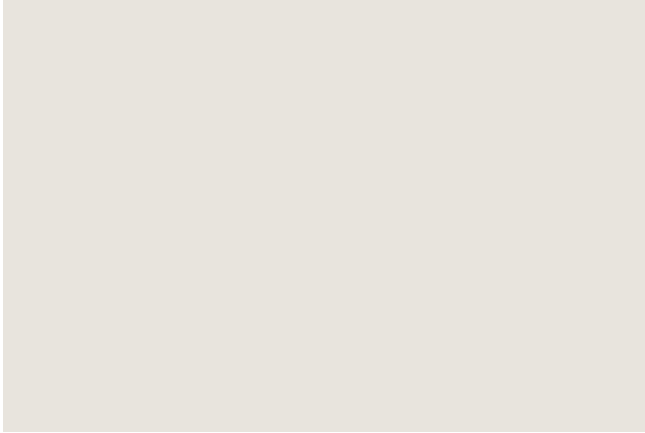


Add image/caption. Recycling dumpster

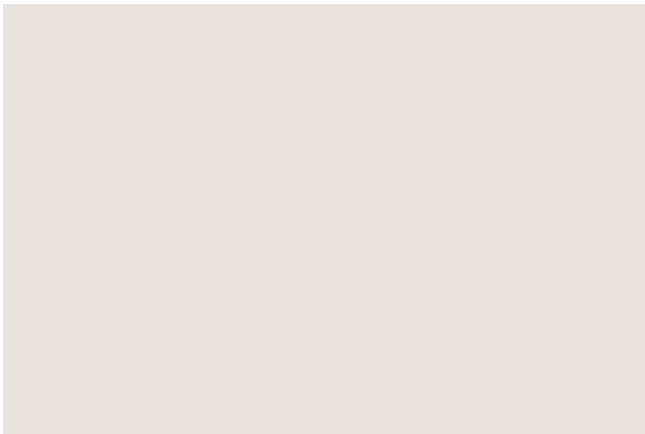
Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Increase the number of multi-family dwellings with recycling infrastructure	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Minimize recycling contamination through culturally appropriate education, partnerships, workforce champions, and resident feedback	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Recycling



Add image/caption. Recycling at public event



Add image/caption. Paired garbage/recycling containers

Strategy 2

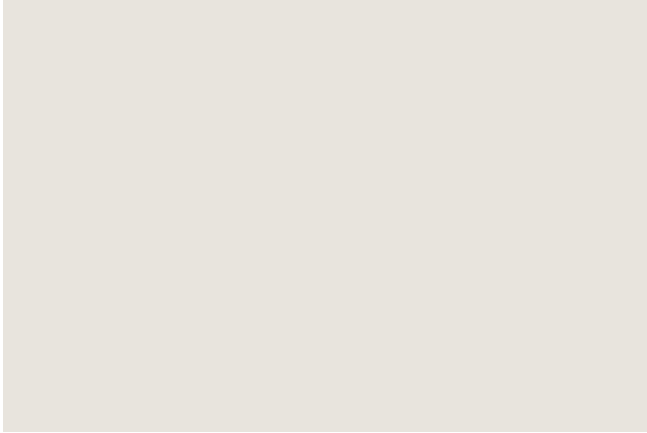
Improve public event and neighborhood business district recycling infrastructure

To create recycling habits, we need to provide easy access to recycling at home, work, and play via environmental design. A best practice is to provide paired recycling and garbage receptacles, clear simple signage as well as monitoring and collection. Recycling at public events—such as Taste of Cincinnati, Reds Opening Day, Blink, or watching the World Cup in the DORA District—signals to our residents and visitors that Cincinnati embodies a culture of sustainability. Workforce development is also essential so that event producers can hire skilled professionals to do this work.

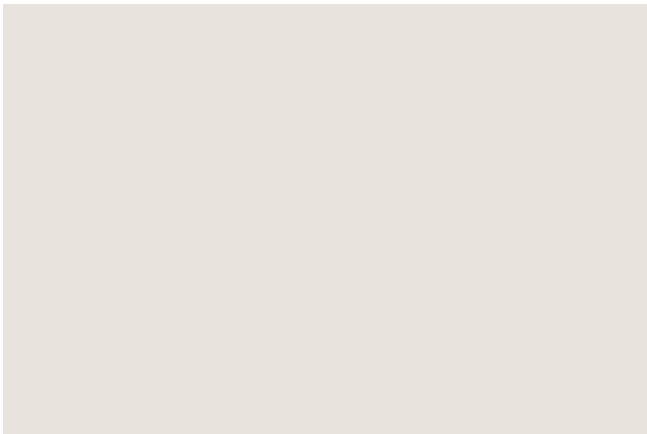
Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Require permitted public events and events held on City property to use best available recycling practices and include recycling service costs in the permit fee	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Provide alternatives to single-use plastic items at permitted public events and events held on City property	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Pair garbage cans with recycling containers in all Neighborhood Business Districts and DORA districts and provide necessary services including collection and monitoring	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Recycling



Add image/caption. Cincinnati Recycling and Reuse Hub



Add image/caption. Example of commercial recycler

Strategy 3

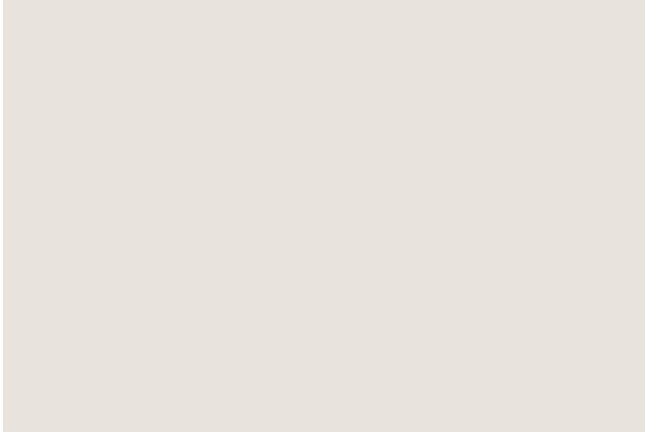
Increase use of alternative recycling and reuse outlets for residential metals, textiles, e-waste, and other emerging recyclable waste streams

Despite keeping waste out of the landfill, recycling does require the input of resources and energy. In contrast, waste reduction, reuse, and repair all conserve energy and save natural resources, making them, in many ways, better options than recycling in the waste hierarchy. Reusable take-out containers are preferable to single-use containers even if they do require washing. Similarly, donating or selling household items and furniture extends the “life” of these items, keeping them out of the landfill. Unfortunately, it’s usually easier and cheaper to buy new, rather than fix or find something a new home. This strategy aims to level the playing field so just as easy to reuse as it is to replace.

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Support and expand neighborhood pick-up locations that connect commercial recyclers to dropped-off recyclable materials, like the Cincinnati Recycling and Reuse Hub	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Create a program that incentivizes commercial recyclers to collect household e-waste, textiles, and reusable items not otherwise collected curbside	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Incentivize recycling and diversion innovation by increasing the cost of waste generation and disposal	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Recycling



Add image/caption. Recycling worker

Strategy 4

Build capacity of the recycling and reuse workforce

In addition to improving the recycling infrastructure at public events, the City must also build the appropriate workforce capacity. Currently, property managers and event producers are unable to hire skilled services, stalling any progress made in public-event recycling. We have also learned that we can increase the capacity of residents in priority communities to embrace recycling if we combine it with an employment opportunity. By training and employing residents in priority communities to provide these services, the City can both provide jobs and expand the reach of residential recycling.

Priority Actions

Create “Recycling Valets”: workforce and small business development to provide recycling collection, monitoring, and education to multi-family dwellings, special events, and business districts with an emphasis on employing residents from priority neighborhoods

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Organics

Goal

Sustainably divert 50% of organics (including yard trimmings and food waste) from the landfill by 2028.

BASELINE YEAR(S)

2018

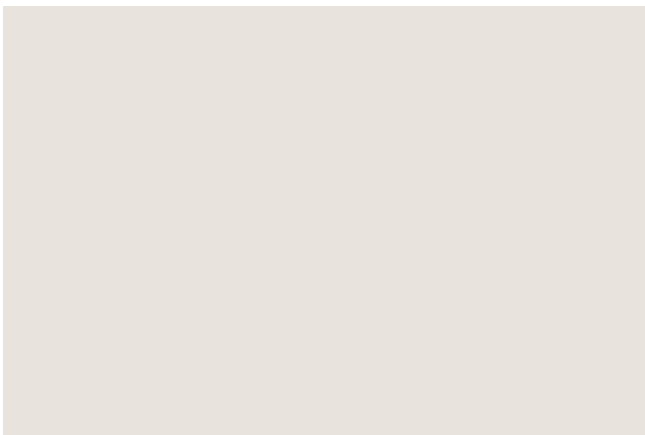
DATA SOURCE(S)

Hamilton County Waste Characterization Study 2018

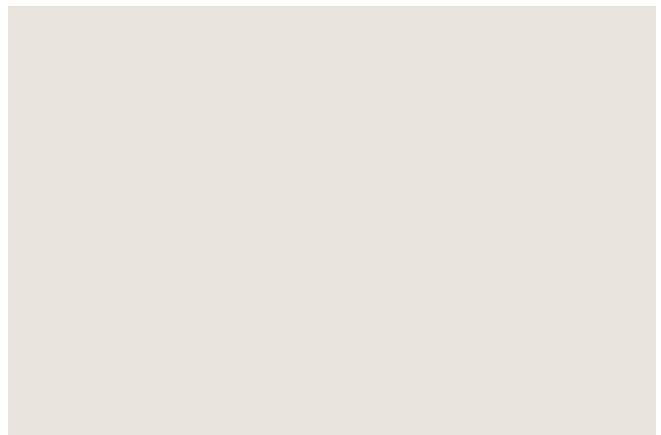
Strategy 1

Improve current yard-trimmings collection program and utilization of biochar

The city's yard trimmings program—designed to divert organics from the landfill—has sputtered over the years due to budget cuts. Therefore, compliance with the source-separated yard trimmings program has declined, and landfill diversion has stalled. Education and outreach will help the City get this vital program back on track. Additionally, we need to ensure each household has the appropriate carts for recycling, yard trimmings, and garbage.



Add image/caption. residential mulching/just mow it

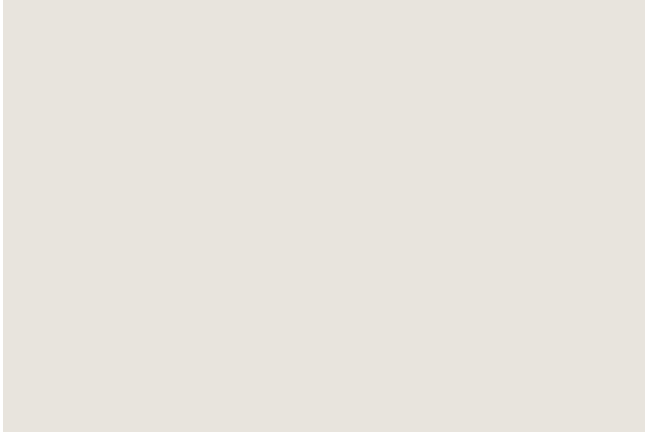


Add image/caption. Biochar in use

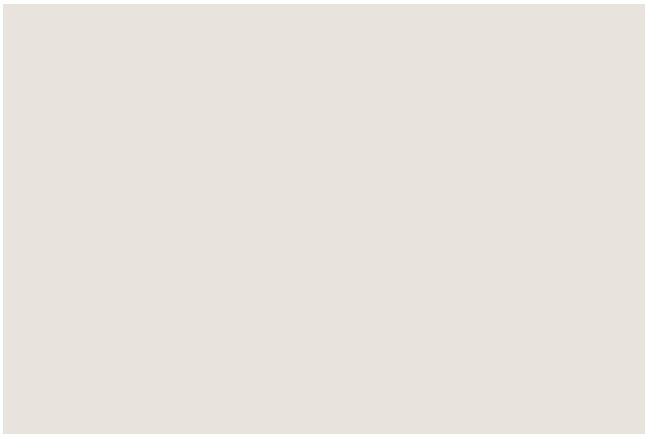
Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Conduct education and outreach on residential mulching (Just Mow It) to reduce grass clippings and source-separated yard trimmings for collection and composting	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Support the development of local biochar processing, and the utilization of activated biochar for farming, tree plantings, storm water retention, etc.	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Organics



Add image/caption. Home composting



Add image/caption. Compost facility example

Strategy 2

Improve multi-scale composting infrastructure

Composting is the process of recycling organic material—such as food waste, leaves, and yard trimmings—into soil amendment for plants and soil. One of the biggest challenges the City faces in implementing a large-scale composting operation is the high cost of transportation. To process organic material efficiently, the city’s composting infrastructure needs to have several tiers:

Tier 1

The best way to minimize transportation cost is to incentivize and encourage home composting of food waste and yard trimmings.

Tier 2

Transporting compostable organics to small-scale urban agriculture operations that grow food helps farmers and communities and lowers costs for the City.

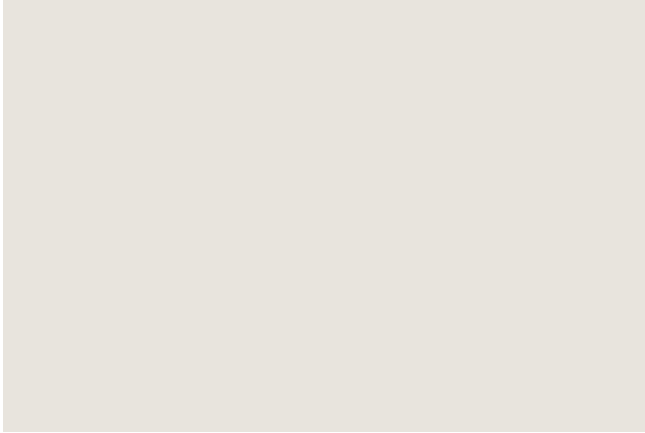
Tier 3

This tier consists of large-scale, industrial Class II composting for organics that do not readily degrade in the first two tiers. In addition to food waste and yard trimmings, the Class II facility can process food waste, compostable paper and take-out containers not acceptable in the other tiers.

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Pilot and support small-scale community composting under 500 square feet	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Ensure all organic material collected, including yard trimmings and food waste, is composted in a sustainable manner	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Support funding, siting, and development of a local, large-scale Class II compost facility	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Organics



Add image/caption. Food waste drop off collection center

Strategy 3

Divert food waste through prevention, reuse/recovery, and composting

In 2021 Cincinnati sent 74,953 tons of household waste to the landfill, approximately 16.8% (12,592 tons) of which was food waste. Food waste is the biggest contributor to methane, a greenhouse gas that is up to 86 times more powerful than carbon dioxide. In the United States up to 40% of food is never eaten, resulting in a massive resource drain from the growing, processing, transporting and eventual disposal of all that unused food. Nationwide, households lose approximately \$1800 per year in wasted groceries, while here in Cincinnati 33% of families are food insecure. This data speaks to an alarming gap between what is wasted and what is needed.

Cincinnati has worked to support the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food Recovery Hierarchy, using prevention, reuse/recovery, and composting. However, to move forward, the City must more robustly use these tools to eliminate wasted food and divert food waste from the landfill. Additionally, the City needs to create pathways for the proper storage and timely transport of excess food for donation.

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Support the development of anaerobic digesters to divert organics from the waste stream	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Support the creation of food waste collection programs and/or establish food waste drop-off locations in city facilities, communities, and schools	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

See [Food Focus Area](#) for details on Food Waste Prevention & Recovery activities.

Litter

Goal

Decrease litter and illegal dumping by 10% annually through 2028.

BASELINE YEAR(S)

TBD

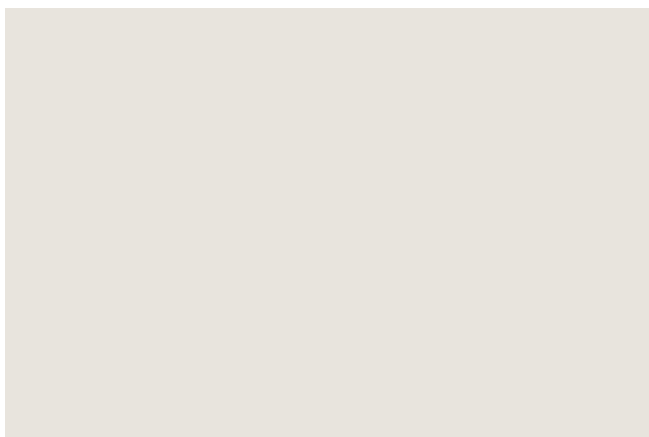
DATA SOURCE(S)

Keep Cincinnati Beautiful; City stats

Strategy

Increase programming and outreach for litter and illegal dumping prevention.

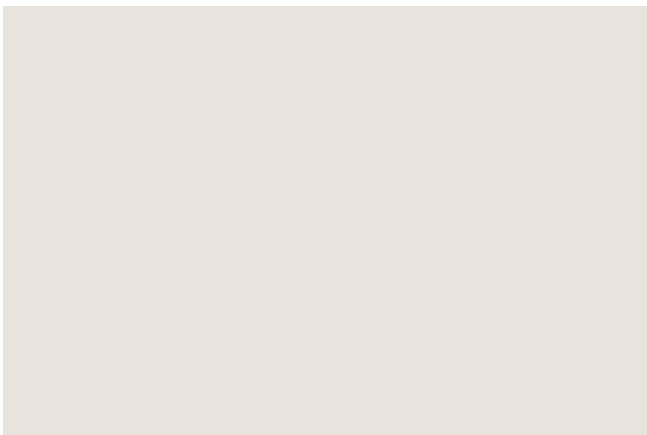
Litter is a problem in Cincinnati. Seventy percent of the complaints the City receives deal with litter and illegal dumping, reflecting both quality of life and environmental issues. In addition to creating blight and pollution, illegal dumping can present a health and safety issue depending on the type of material being dumped. These activities often occur in many accessible but unsecured locations like vacant lots, wooded areas, drainageways, alleys, and roadways—areas often found in communities with fewer resources for tackling such challenges. Cincinnati needs to adopt a comprehensive strategy, one that takes an inter-departmental approach, leveraging community stakeholders, organizations, and volunteers to assist priority communities in putting a stop to this chronic problem. Single-use plastics add to the problem as they contribute to unsightly litter and wasted resources, clogging drainage and waterways, and ultimately breaking down into environmentally pervasive micro-plastics.



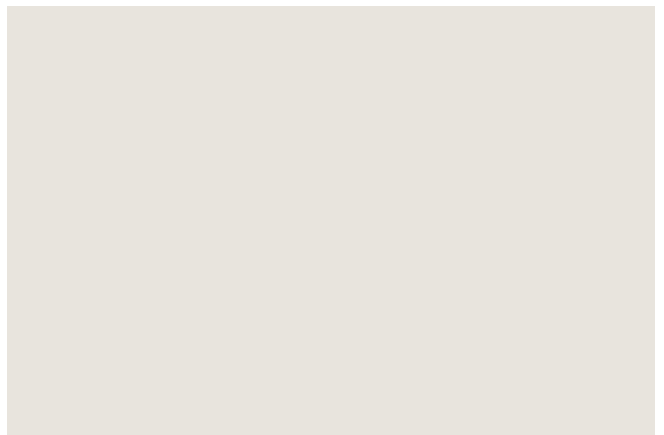
Add image/caption. Adopt a block

Priority Actions

	GCP PILLARS			ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES			
	Sustainability	Equity	Resilience	Jobs	Investment	Health	Feasibility
Utilize policy and fees to discourage the use of single-use plastics, including plastic bags	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Reduce litter and illegal dumping through public communications strategy and stronger enforcement	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Conduct routine neighborhood litter clean-ups and partnering with programs like Adopt-A-Block.	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Add image/caption. Single use plastics/plastic bags



Add image/caption. No dumping sign

Appendix

[Glossary – Acronym & Key Terms](#)

[Cincinnati Climate Equity Indicators Report 2021](#)

[Cincinnati Urban Heat Island Assessment](#)

[Cincinnati Urban Tree Canopy Dashboard](#)

[Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#)

[Climate Equity Benchmarking Analysis Report](#)

[Climate Safe Resilience Plans](#)

[ClimateView Cincinnati Dashboard](#)

[GCP Equity Framework](#)

[J40 Factsheet](#)

[Making Justice40 a Reality for Frontline Communities](#)

[Plan Cincinnati](#)

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- ⁴ United States Environmental Protection Agency. (2016). *What Climate Change Means for Ohio* (EPA 430-F-16-037). <https://19january2017snapshot.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-09/documents/climate-change-oh.pdf>
- ⁵ *Climate Explorer*. (n.d.). https://crt-climateexplorer.nemac.org/cards_home/?city=Cincinnati,+OH
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- ¹⁰ Office of Transportation and Engineering, City of Cincinnati. (2021, September 22). *Columbia Parkway Landslide Mitigation Project Wraps Up, Stabilizes Two-Mile Stretch from Bains to Torrence* [Press release]. <https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/dote/news/columbia-parkway-landslide-mitigation-project-wraps-up-stabilizes-two-mile-stretch-from-bains-to-torrence/>
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- ¹² U. (n.d.). *Climate Science Special Report: Changes in Land Cover and Terrestrial Biogeochemistry*. <https://science2017.globalchange.gov/chapter/10/>
- ¹³ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. (2017). *Ohio River Basin: Formulating Climate Change Mitigation/Adaptation Strategies through Regional Collaboration with the ORB Alliance*.
- ¹⁴ U. (2018b). *Fourth National Climate Assessment: Chapter 21: Midwest*. <https://nca2018.globalchange.gov/chapter/21/>
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- ¹⁶ Robinson, C. (2020, January 22). *Modeling migration patterns in the USA under sea level rise*. PLOS ONE. <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0227436>
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²¹ *The Bill Is Coming Due: Calculating the Financial Cost of Climate Change to Ohio's Local Governments*. (n.d.). Power a Clean Future Ohio. <https://www.poweracleanfuture.org/oh-municipal-costs-of-climate-change>

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²⁴ Even, T. L., Trott, C. D., Gray, E. S., Roncker, J., Basaraba, A., Harrison, T., Petersen, S., Sullivan, S., & Revis, S. (2021). *Climate Equity Indicators Report—2021, City of Cincinnati*. The American Cities Climate Challenge Equity Capacity Building Fund, Bloomberg Foundation. https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/sites/oes/assets/File/Climate%20Equity%20Indicators%20Report_2021.pdf

SUBJECT: A report and recommendation on proposed zone changes along and adjacent to the Lick Run Greenway Corridor located in South Fairmount.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Location: The area generally surrounding the Lick Run Corridor, south of Westwood Avenue and north of Queen City Avenue.

Petitioner: South Fairmount Community Council

Property Owner: Multiple property owners

EXHIBITS:

Provided in addition to this report are the following exhibits:

- Exhibit A Zone Change Request Letter
- Exhibit B American Institute of Architects (AIA) Workshop Concept Plan
- Exhibit C Boundary Map
- Exhibit D Phasing Map
- Exhibit E Existing Zoning Map
- Exhibit F Proposed Zone Changes Map
- Exhibit G AIA Workshop Results Presentation

BACKGROUND:

The Department of City Planning and Engagement (DCPE) conducted a zoning analysis in response to a request from the South Fairmount Community Council (SFCC) to study the area including and around the Lick Run Greenway. During the process, DCPE engaged the Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD), Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), and the Department of Transportation and Engineering (DOTE), along with the community. These proposed zone changes are a result of over two and a half years of analysis and community input and engagement.

In February 2020, the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Cincinnati organized a “Public Participation Urban Design Workshop” in partnership with the South Fairmount Community Council to explore the area around the Lick Run Greenway since the greenway construction was nearing completion. During the workshop, community members shared their vision for the area surrounding the Lick Run Greenway which may be found in Exhibits B and G. The community’s vision calls for a more walkable, pedestrian-scaled environment, whereas the current zoning is for a more auto-oriented environment.

Additionally, in May 2021, the Lick Run Greenway, a \$103 million-dollar investment, officially opened. The Lick Run Greenway is a stormwater management project that doubles as a park providing both recreational and educational opportunities for community members. It is the first daylighted stream in the nation to control sewer overflows.

Staff from DCPE has been working on this analysis and zoning study for over two years and the results

take place in the form of the proposed changes and recommendations (Exhibit F).

ZONING STUDY BOUNDARY AND PHASING:

The zoning study area was drawn based on the community’s Concept Plan from the AIA Workshop (Exhibit B). This boundary (Exhibit C) was drawn to include key components of the Concept Plan, while respecting the parcel boundaries.

The Metropolitan Sewer District is in the process of re-platting parcels owned by Hamilton County. These parcels will be re-platted to reflect the final configuration of the Lick Run Greenway. Once re-platted, parcels not included in the Lick Run Greenway will be available for sale at a future point.

The current zoning of the area between Queen City Avenue and Westwood Avenue is Commercial Community - Auto (CC-A) except for the property owned by the City of Cincinnati and operated by the Cincinnati Recreation Commission which is zoned Park and Recreation (PR). Once re-platted, the all of the entire property within the Lick Run Greenway will be proposed to be rezoned from CC-A to Parks and Recreation (PR).

Since the exact replat is unknown at this time, the Department of City Planning and Engagement recommends that there are two phases of zone changes:

1. **Phase I:** Property south of Westwood Avenue and north of Queen City Avenue (this staff report and recommendation).
2. **Phase II:** Property between Westwood Avenue and Queen City Avenue (once the replat is complete).

A map of the proposed phases is included as Exhibit D. This proposal outlines suggested zone changes for Phase I.

PUBLIC COMMENT AND ENGAGEMENT:

In February 2020, the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Cincinnati organized a “Public Participation Urban Design Workshop” in partnership with the South Fairmount Community Council (SFCC). This was the beginning of the public engagement and the results of this workshop helped spur the reasoning behind the proposed zone changes. Staff from the Department of City Planning and Engagement met with the SFCC multiple times after this workshop, met with associated City departments, and walked the corridor itself to experience and survey the area and adjacent properties. The results were presented at the Neighborhood Summit in 2021 at an educational session (Exhibit G).

There was a public staff conference held on October 18, 2022 via Zoom with twenty three (23) people in attendance, including City staff and members from the SFCC. The majority of the community members were supportive of the zone change, while two individuals did not want the zoning to change on their subject properties. Many people had questions regarding the possible timeline and next steps. Some others had questions regarding nonconformities. All property owners within the study area and the property owners within 400-feet were notified via USPS mail for the public staff conference, with additional posts to DCPE’s Facebook and Twitter accounts and a webpage created for the proposed changes.

Staff additionally presented to the SFCC on August 9, 2022 and September 13, 2022, before the public

staff conference to make the council aware of the proposed changes and to get any input. The SFCC supports the proposed zone changes.

All property owners within a 400-foot radius of the subject properties, the SFCC, and property owners that have been correspondence with staff were notified of the March 17, 2023 City Planning Commission meeting. No additional correspondence was received as of March 9, 2023.

EXISTING ZONING:

There are four overarching zoning districts present in the zoning study area: manufacturing, commercial, single-family residential, and residential multi-family. An existing zoning map and zoning composition of the area is included as Exhibit E. These zoning districts include:

Manufacturing Districts - Subdistrict: Manufacturing General (MG)

To create, preserve and enhance areas that are appropriate for a wide variety of supporting and related commercial and manufacturing establishments that may have the potential to generate off-site impacts. Future development will accommodate heavy industrial and manufacturing uses, transportation facilities, warehousing and distribution and similar and related supporting uses. These uses typically require sites with good transportation access. Uses that may inhibit industrial development are prohibited.

The MG zoning district is one of the most prevalent zoning districts in the zoning study area; however, it is found towards the eastern periphery of the area. 30% of the zoning study area is MG. The MG area abuts the Mill Creek industrial corridor.

Commercial Districts - Subdistrict: Commercial Community (CC)

To identify, create, maintain and enhance areas suitable for a wide variety of commercial and institutional uses along major transportation corridors and in shopping districts or centers. Although these centers may reflect elements of both pedestrian- and auto-oriented development, they typically accommodate larger-scale retail and commercial service uses, such as auto-related businesses and recreation and entertainment, as well as a variety of public and semi-public uses. Future development must reflect a complementary and compatible mix of uses, and may include residential uses.

Community Character Designation: Auto-oriented (CC-A)

This district designation is intended for areas that provide for easy automobile access. Large buildings are located on the site with parking in front. Out lots associated with shopping centers often contain auto-oriented businesses. Performance standards are intended to mitigate the impact of the parking lots and buffer adjacent residential areas.

15% of the study area is zoned CC-A. The CC-A zoning districts are found on the western portion of the study area, as well as along Queen City Avenue.

Community Character Designation: Mixed (CC-M)

This district designation is intended to provide for a mix of the pedestrian and auto-oriented development. Older, pedestrian-oriented buildings may be intermixed with newer, auto-oriented uses.

10% of the study area is zoned CC-M. These zoning districts are found along both Queen

City Avenue and Westwood Avenue.

Single-Family Districts – Subdistrict: SF-2

The specific purposes of the SF single-family districts are to create, maintain and enhance neighborhood residential areas that are characterized by detached, single-unit structures. Future development must remain single-family residential in character, although some public and non-residential uses may be permitted in certain districts. SF-2 allows high-density, small lot, single-family developments. The minimum lot size is 2,000 square feet.

Single-family zoning constitutes 18% of the study area. It is found a block north of Queen City Avenue, as well as to the northwest of the study area.

Residential Multi-Family Districts (RM)

The specific purposes of the RM Residential Multi-family subdistricts are to create, maintain and enhance neighborhood residential areas with multi-family housing that are typically located near the city's major arterials and characterized by a mix of attached housing, small and large multi-unit buildings and community facilities, where appropriate. Future development will be primarily residential in character, although some small-scale public and non-residential uses on the ground floor in a mixed-use building on an arterial street may be allowed with specific limitations.

Subdistrict: Residential Mixed (RMX)

This subdistrict is intended to create, maintain and enhance areas of the city that have a mix of lot sizes and house types at moderate intensities (one to three dwelling units). Existing multi-family buildings of four or more units are acknowledged but new construction is not permitted.

The RMX zoning district in the Phase I zoning study area is located on the northern border between Harrison Avenue and Tremont Street and south of Westwood Avenue. The district is characterized primarily by single-family and two-family houses on small lots. There are some smaller-scale apartment buildings as well along Westwood Avenue.

Subdistrict: Residential Multi-Family 1.2 (RM-1.2)

This subdistrict is intended to provide for mixed residential uses at moderately high densities. This is an intense district with an urban character. The minimum land area for every dwelling unit is 1,200 square feet.

RM-1.2 is found along Queen City Avenue towards the center of the stud area and extends north to Tremont Avenue. The area primarily consists of two large parcels with a school and a senior housing facility. 11% of the study area is RM-1.2.

PROPOSED ZONE CHANGES AND ANALYSIS:

The proposed zone changes consist of a total of 1,283 properties within the study area. 460 of these properties are being proposed to change their existing zoning with approximately 163 property owners affected. These changes are outlined in the proposed zoning map found in Exhibit F.

There are four (4) main areas that are being requested to change zoning districts. These areas include:

1) Manufacturing General (MG) to Urban Mix (UM)

These properties are currently zoned MG and are found in the southeast corner of the study area south of the Harrison Avenue ramp and north of Queen City Avenue. This area consists of approximately 54 acres and 236 properties. This area is 30% of the Phase I study area. This portion includes the Lunkenheimer building, Cincinnati Fire Department Station 21, and multiple construction and industrial businesses and self-storage facilities.

All the proposed zone changes are being proposed to zoning districts that currently exist in the study area with the only exception being the introduction of the Urban Mix (UM) zoning district.

Urban Mix

The purposes of Urban Mix district are to:

- (a) Provide a balance of uses and amenities fostering a vital economic, livable and cultural area and enhance its urban, aesthetic qualities.
- (b) Protect and enhance historic, cultural, economic and architectural resources.
- (c) Preserve, create and enhance pedestrian-oriented streets to encourage retail, entertainment, residential and office vitality and improve the quality of life for district residents, visitors and workers.
- (d) Provide quality public spaces, such as urban street corridors, by maintaining the physical continuity of the street edge created by buildings.
- (e) Bring most daily activities within walking distance, giving the elderly, young and disabled increased independence of movement.
- (f) Reduce the number of automobile trips; minimize congestion, consumption of resources and air and noise pollution.

The UM zoning district permits single-family homes (attached and detached), multi-family dwellings, offices, hospitals, hotels, daycares, eating and drinking establishments with no drive-throughs, business services, and a variety of other commercial uses. This use restricts vehicular services, storage services, and other industrial uses. This area was identified by the community to allow for more entertainment uses including event space, restaurants, and possible brewery or winery. This area is one of the gateways to the Lick Run Corridor and should allow uses for pedestrians to easily access from this corridor, safely and appropriately.

2) Commercial Community – Auto (CC-A) to Commercial Community – Mixed (CC-M)

This area consists of properties located in the southwestern corner of the study area and are located south of Queen City Avenue and west of Quebec Road. The existing uses within this area cater towards vehicular services and commercial uses. This area consists of approximately 11 acres and 54 properties.

The properties directly east across the other side of Quebec Road are currently zoned CC-M, so staff and the community members thought it was appropriate to downzone this existing zoning district to more of a middle ground zoning district. The CC-M zoning district is intended to provide for a mix of pedestrian and auto-oriented developments. Older, pedestrian-oriented buildings may be intermixed with newer, auto-oriented uses. Car washes and fuel sales are permitted within the CC-M zoning districts.

3) Commercial Community – Auto (CC-A) to Commercial Community – Pedestrian (CC-P)

This area consists of the properties north of Queen City Avenue, adjacent and below Harrison Avenue (west of the existing BP gas station) and just east of Grand Avenue. 64 properties belong to this area and consists of approximately 6 acres and currently has small businesses, abandoned buildings with many of the building fronts up against the right-of-away, and the Cincinnati Water Works Western Hills Pumping Station.

This area was identified by the community to include mixed-use infill efforts. The proposed zone changes to CC-P would allow a traditional urban character where buildings are built to the street line to provide close relationships with the pedestrians that walk by on the sidewalk and that are coming from the Lick Run Corridor. This zoning district may apply to some areas where a few auto-oriented uses exist, but where restoring the pedestrian character is specified verbatim in the community plan.

4) Commercial Community – Mixed (CC-M) to Commercial Community – Pedestrian (CC-P)

This last main zone change area consists of 106 properties and sits at approximately 11.5 acres. All these properties are currently zoned CC-M and are being requested to change to the CC-P zoning district. Buildings in this area consists of places of worship, residences, a tire shop, a carwash, vacant lots, and multiple dilapidated buildings.

These areas were identified in the concept plan to include walkable, mixed-use, pedestrian-scale developments in which CC-P would permit these efforts. With the intent of reducing the amount of vehicular-oriented zoning, pedestrians might feel more comfortable with walking to businesses or places. These proposed zone changes are one of the many attempts to reduce speeding and to increase the pedestrian safety of the neighborhood and community as a whole.

ZONING DISTRICTS RECOMMENDED TO STAY THE SAME:

No zone changes are being proposed for the following areas:

RM-1.2

This zone permits moderately high multi-family residential densities. The community's concept plan does indicate a desired change to this area. The existing zoning within the study area that is current zoned RM-1.2 is appropriate for the current uses.

RMX

This zone permits a mix of lot sizes and residences with up to three units. This is in line with the community's concept plan which calls for attached and detached single-family infill housing.

SF-2 - West of White Street

The concept plan calls for a job training center on the site of the old school on the parcel in the northwest along White Street. The SF-2 zoning district's uses are restrictive, which provides protection for this site until there is a proposal for redevelopment. The zoning for this site can be examined when there is a plan for the site in the future.

CC-A - Harrison Avenue Area

The area north of Harrison Avenue that is zoned CC-A is not proposed to be changed. The community's concept plan does not make a note of this area. The area is at the intersection of two main roads; auto-oriented uses are appropriate here.

CC-M (Quebec Road)

The area zoned CC-M along Quebec Road is not proposed to be changed. The community's concept plan calls for this area to have an event center, destination restaurants, and mixed uses. It also can serve as a gateway area. The community's desired uses require a mix of pedestrian and auto-oriented development.

CONSISTENCY WITH PLANS:

South Fairmount currently has two plans that have set vision and goals for the neighborhood, including the *Cincinnati Choice Neighborhoods Transformation Plan* (2014) and the *Lick Run Watershed Master Plan* (2012).

The proposed zone changes are consistent with aspects of both plans, including goals and strategies related to:

- Creating a strong neighborhood core for South Fairmount.
- Promoting a walkable, mixed use business district by improving pedestrian safety.
- Promoting market driven redevelopment along Queen City Avenue.
- Improving desirability of housing by increasing commercial and recreational options in the neighborhood.
- Emphasizing the Lick Run corridor and maximizing density and retail opportunities along the corridor.

Plan Cincinnati (2012)

These proposed zone changes are additionally consistent with *Plan Cincinnati* (2012) goals in the Compete, Connect, Live, and Sustain Initiative Areas. The plan specifically notes the South Fairmount/Lick Run areas as a future opportunity for mixed-use developments or a neighborhood center.

These proposed zone changes are additionally consistent with the Geographic Principle to "Create new centers of activity where appropriate" (p. 94). While much of the City of Cincinnati is within close distances to center of activities, or multiple centers of activity, some residential populations are not being adequately served by existing centers. Currently, there are large under-served areas on the west and north sides of the City. South Fairmount is identified as one of these under-served communities.

South Fairmount used to be known as Cincinnati's 'Little Italy' and had a much greater and dense population than it does today. These proposed zone changes are intended to help the neighborhood and the greater community to get back to its roots, to help set up success for more pedestrian-oriented revitalization and development, and to contribute to the success of the Lick Run Corridor improvements.

CONCLUSIONS:

The staff of the Department of City Planning and Engagement supports the proposed changes in zoning as identified in Exhibit F for the following reasons:

1. The proposed zone changes are consistent with the existing surrounding built environment with regards to allowable uses, building scale, massing, and adjacent zoning districts.

2. The proposed zone changes are consistent with the *Cincinnati Choice Neighborhoods Transformation Plan* (2014) and the *Lick Run Watershed Master Plan* (2012).
3. The proposed zone changes are consistent with four of the Initiative Areas and the Geographic Principle to “Create new centers of activity where appropriate” of *Plan Cincinnati* (2012).
4. This has been a community-driven initiative with buy-in from a majority of property owners within the proposed zone change area.

RECOMMENDATION:

The staff of the Department of City Planning and Engagement recommends that the City Planning Commission take the following action:

APPROVE the proposed zone changes along and adjacent to the Lick Run Greenway Corridor located in South Fairmount as identified in Exhibit F.

Respectfully submitted:



Jesse Urbancsik, Senior City Planner
Department of City Planning and Engagement

Approved:



Katherine Keough-Jurs, FAICP, Director
Department of City Planning and Engagement

SOUTH FAIRMOUNT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Dear Mr. Peppers and Ms. Keough-Jurs,

The South Fairmount Community Council is requesting zoning changes in the area surrounding the Lick Run Greenway.

The South Fairmount Community Council had a zoning workshop in 2020. The drawings with the preferred areas for zone changes indicated had been voted on, agreed upon, and sent to your office in 2020. Your question about how we want the different areas zoned is more complex than what we achieved in the workshop. I think it would be in the best interest of the South Fairmount Community Council and residents to schedule a meeting with the Planning Department. As the area is nearing completion other requests have been made of the Council to address, such as more pedestrian friendly streets and crossings.

The South Fairmount Community Council would like to formally request an advisory meeting with the planning staff so we can share the drawings from the workshop and seek guidance for the rezoning request.

Sincerely,

James Casey
President South Fairmount Community Council

cc. Councilmember Chris Seelbach

South Fairmount
Community Council
PO Box 14165
Cincinnati, Ohio 45250

PHONE 513-567-2243
EMAIL southfairmountcouncil@gmail.com

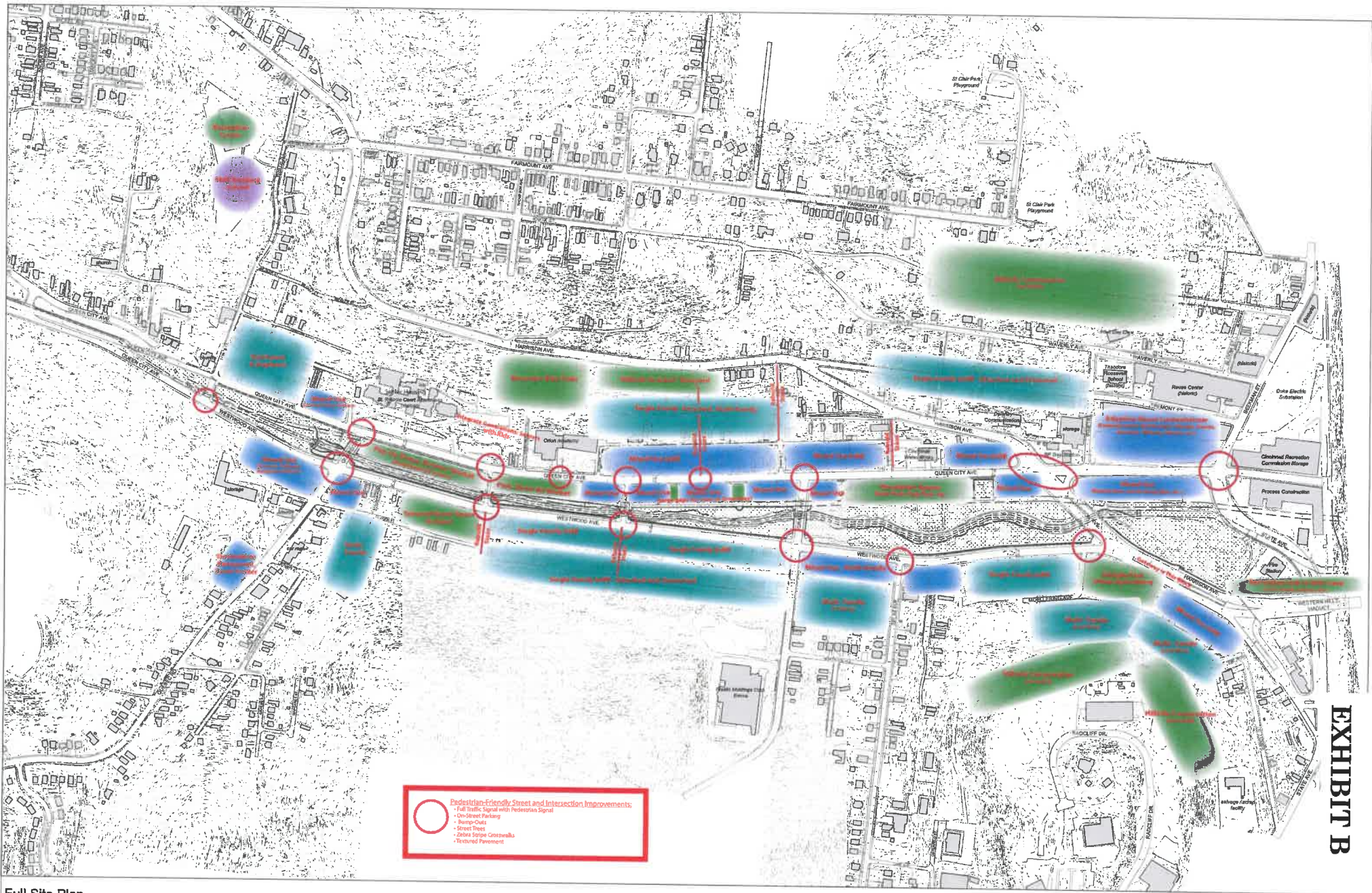


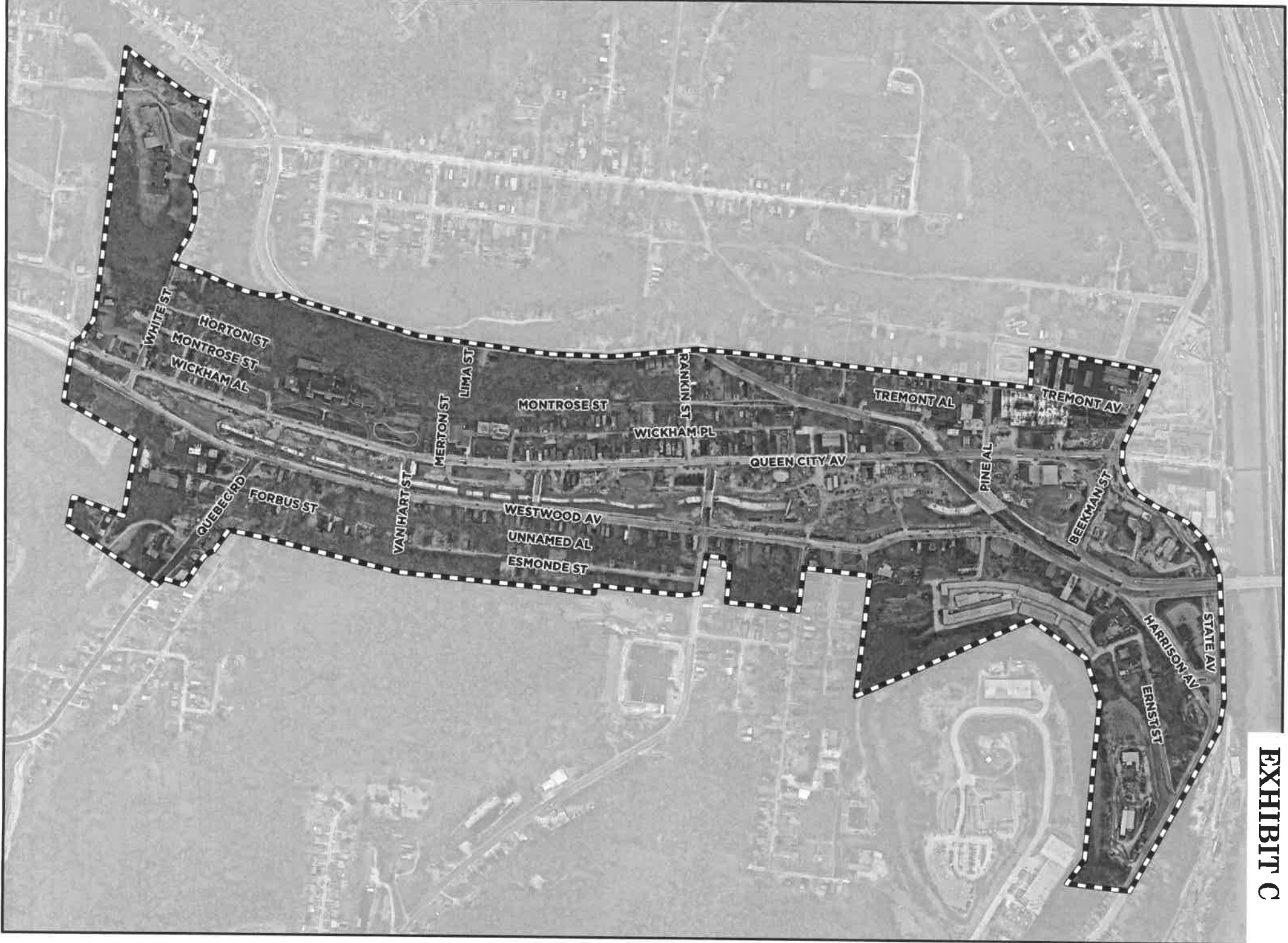
EXHIBIT B

Full Site Plan

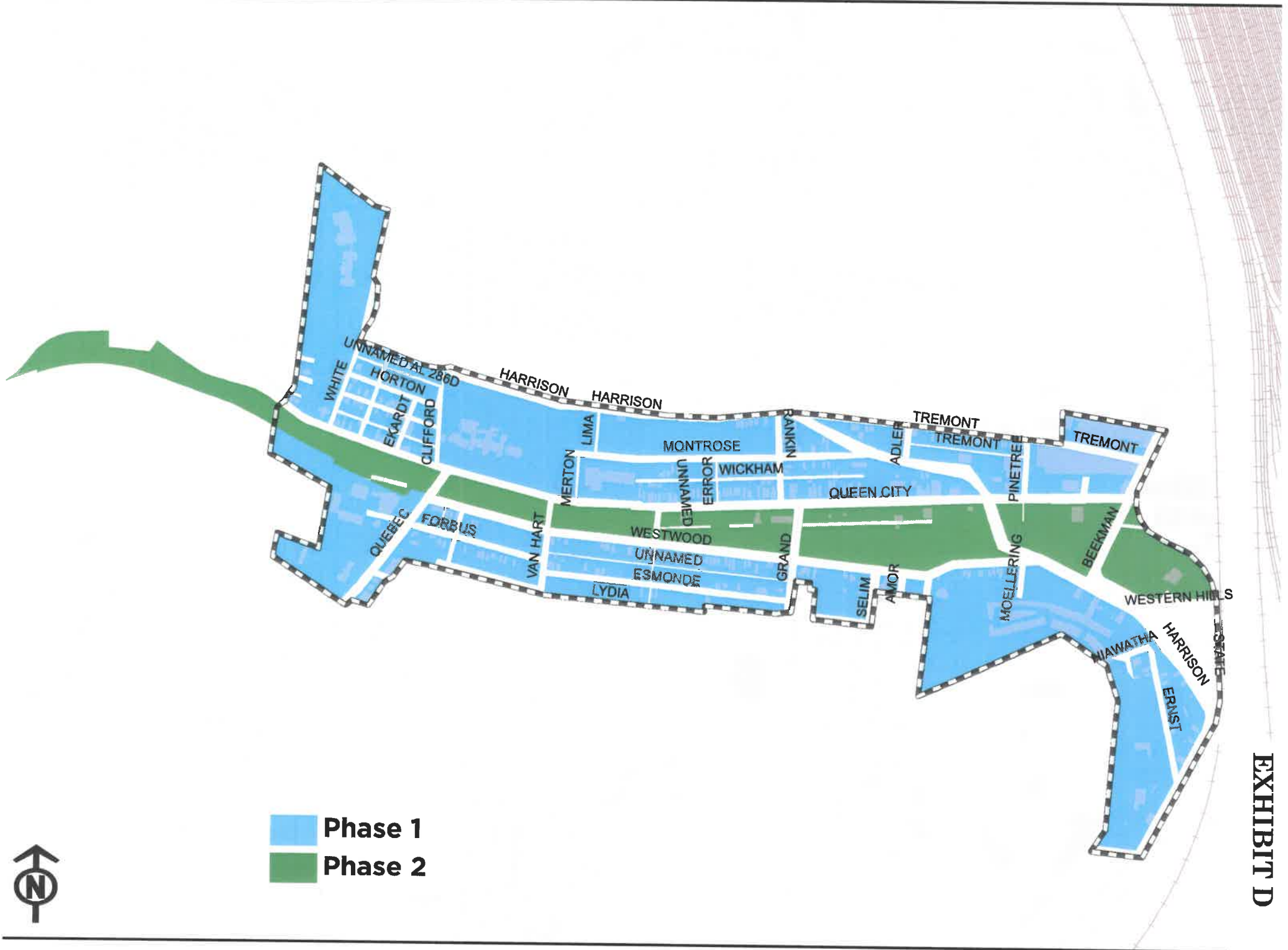
SOUTH FAIRMOUNT LICK RUN DISTRICT

Scale: 1'

SOUTH FAIRMOUNT/LICK RUN STUDY BOUNDARY



SOUTH FAIRMOUNT/LICK RUN POTENTIAL PHASES



- Phase 1
- Phase 2



SOUTH FAIRMOUNT/LICK RUN EXISTING ZONING

Exhibit E

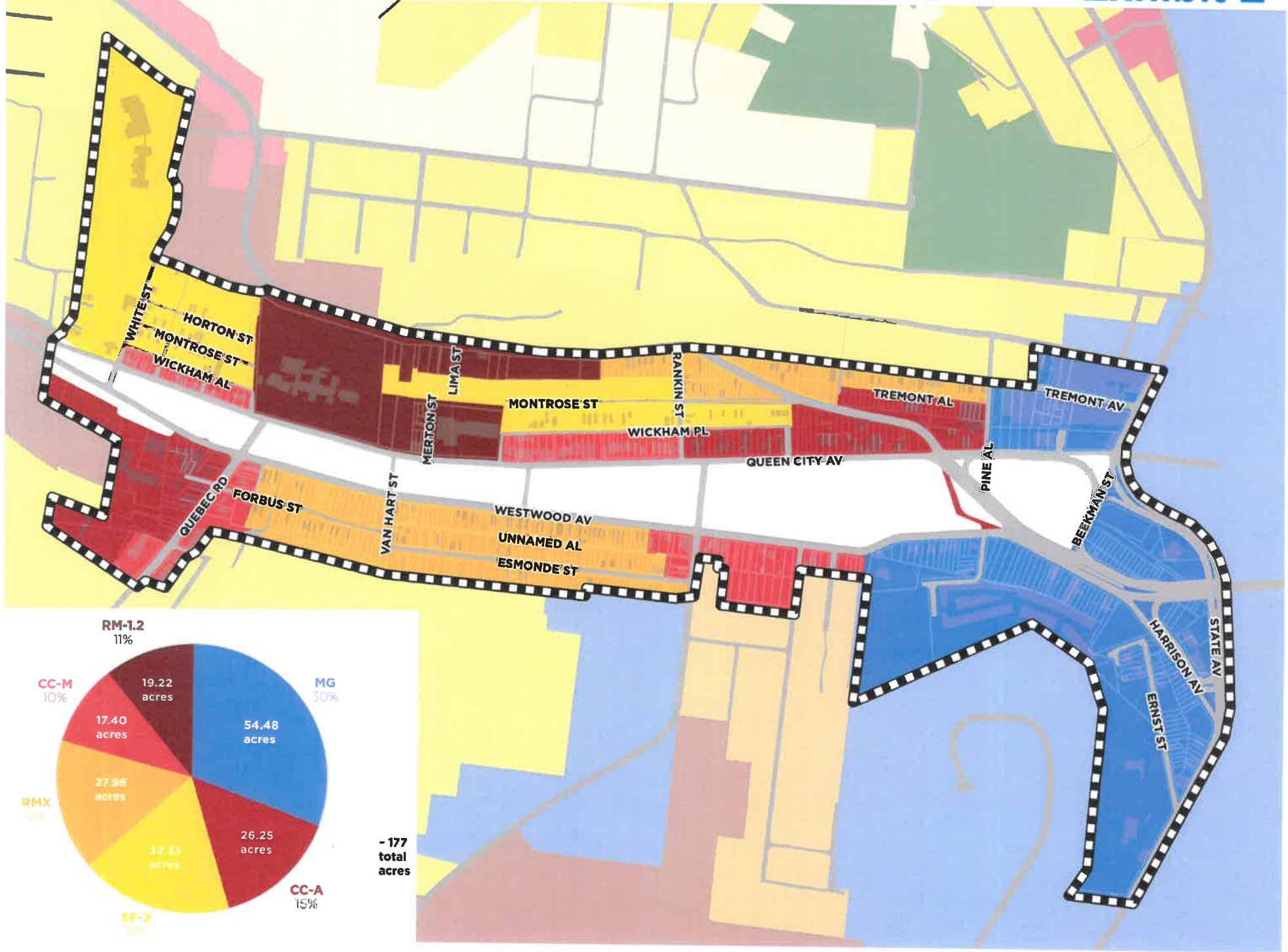
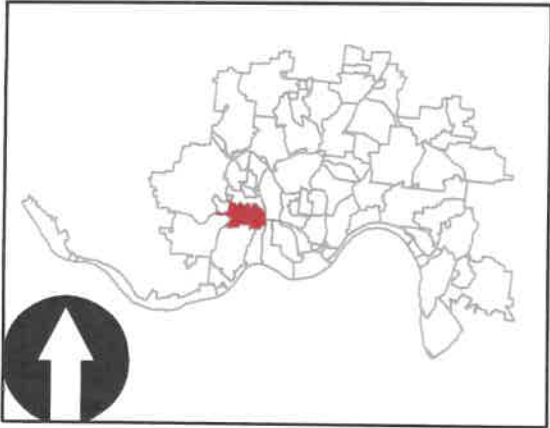
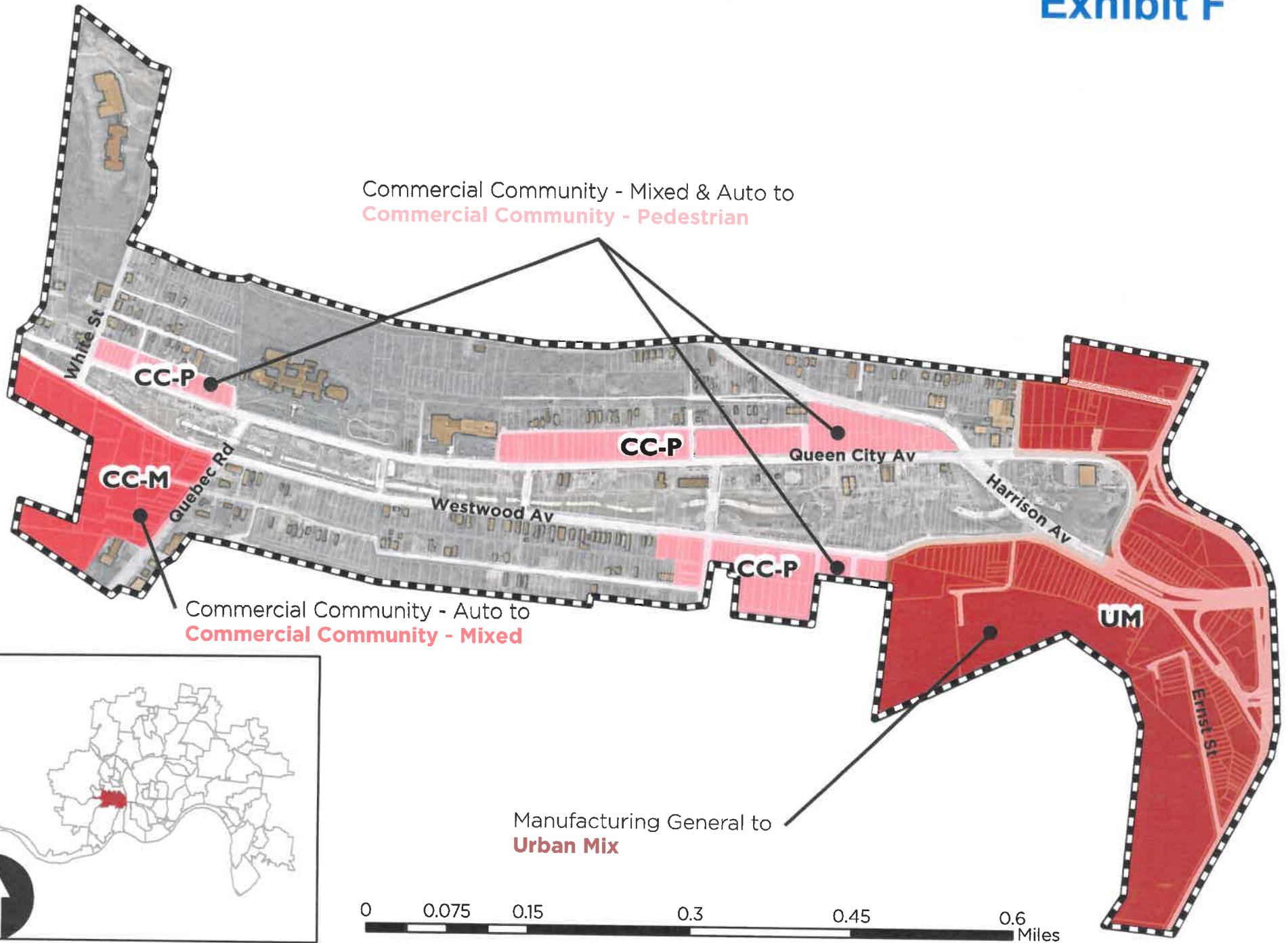


Exhibit F

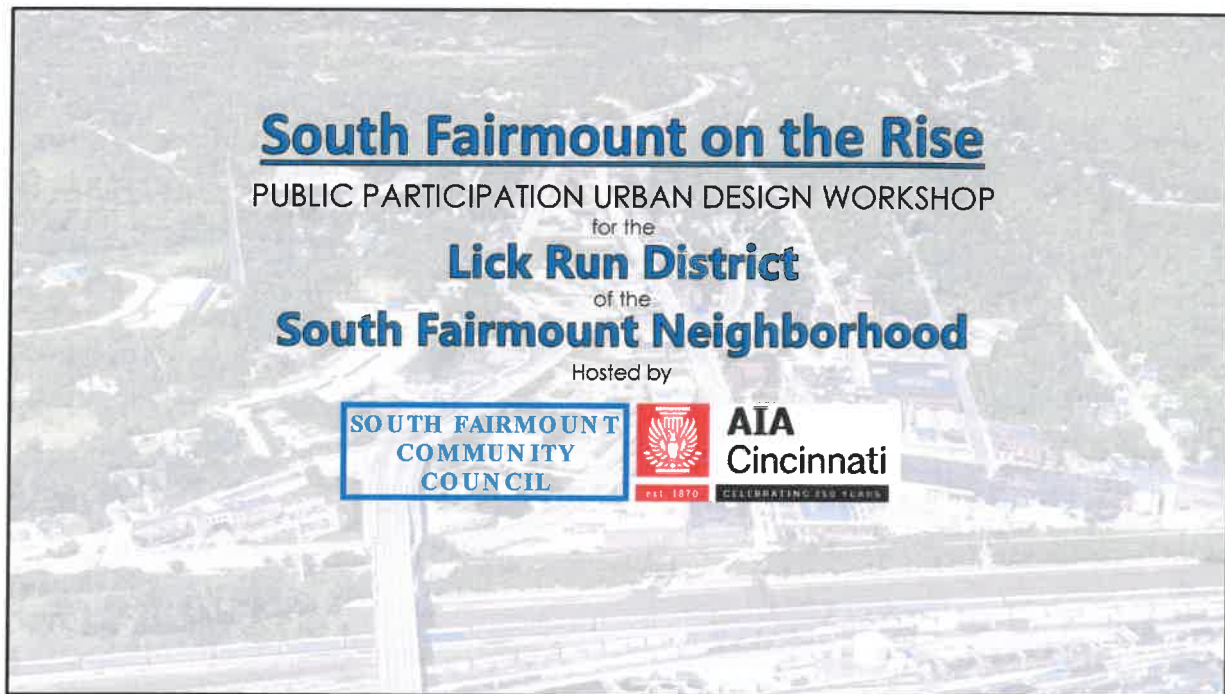
Commercial Community - Mixed & Auto to
Commercial Community - Pedestrian



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Workshops
by AIA Cincinnati

HELPING NEIGHBORHOODS CREATE A VISION FOR THEIR FUTURE

1



South Fairmount on the Rise
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION URBAN DESIGN WORKSHOP
for the
Lick Run District
of the
South Fairmount Neighborhood
Hosted by

**SOUTH FAIRMOUNT
COMMUNITY
COUNCIL**

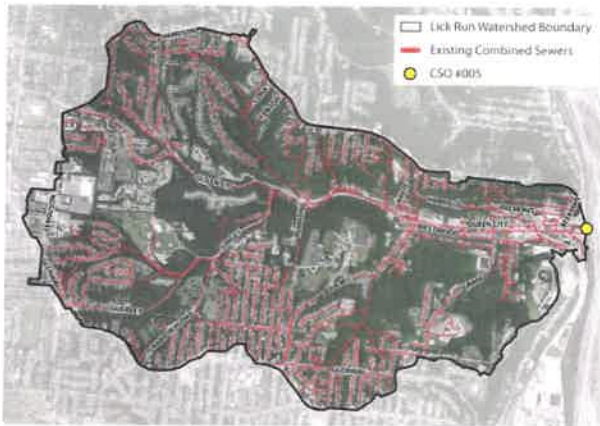
 **AIA
Cincinnati**
est. 1870 CELEBRATING 150 YEARS

2

LICK RUN WATERSHED

An Outsized Impact

"The Lick Run Watershed contributes the largest volume of overflows from combined sewers of any watershed in Hamilton County" - MSD



CSO #005 during wet weather



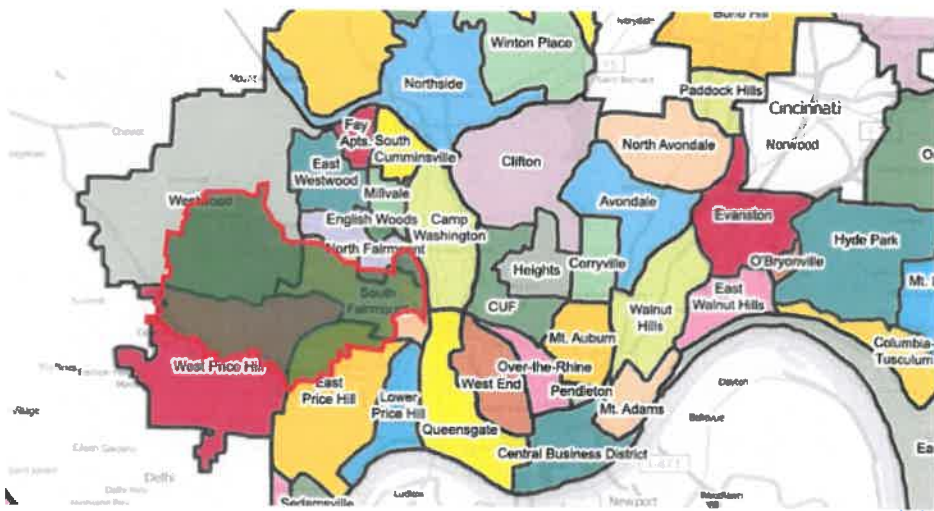
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LICK RUN WATERSHED

Covering nearly the entire South Fairmount neighborhood



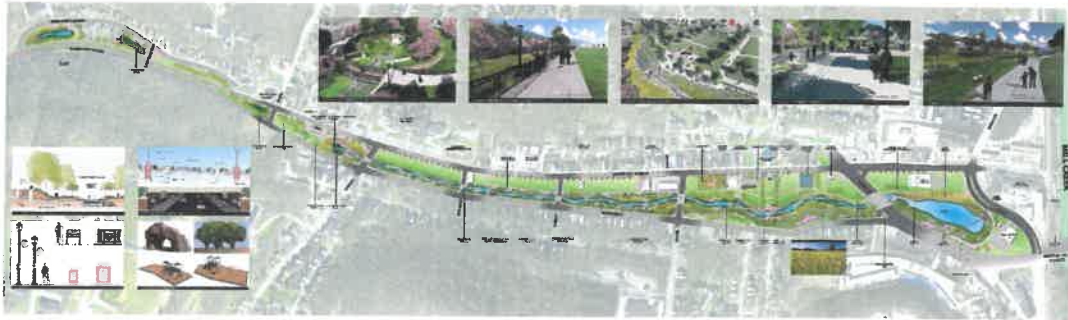
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AN INNOVATIVE SOLUTION – DAYLIGHTING A STREAM

A 1.5 Mile, \$90 Million, Amenity-rich Greenway



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5

NOW WHAT?

What image should be cultivated?

What should be developed around the Greenway?

- Housing?
- Business?
- Retail?
- Restaurants?
- Manufacturing?
- Cultural Institutions?
- Storage / Shipping?
- Entertainment / Recreation?

Gathering spaces?

How intense and dense?

How pedestrian and bicycle friendly?

How should street corridors be treated?

How should the community get what it wants?

How should it start?

WHAT'S THE VISION FOR THIS DISTRICT?

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FRAMEWORK –SOUTH FAIRMOUNT HISTORY

From Farms & Grapevines to Working Class Neighborhood

- French & German immigrants
- Industry and jobs
- Neighborhood businesses
- Three breweries
- Northern hillside of grape vines
- Shooting range ("Shooters Hill")
- Population peak: 15,000



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FRAMEWORK –SOUTH FAIRMOUNT HISTORY

A Brief History of What This Neighborhood Once Was



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FRAMEWORK –SOUTH FAIRMOUNT HISTORY

A Brief History of What This Neighborhood Once Was



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FRAMEWORK –SOUTH FAIRMOUNT HISTORY

A Brief History of What This Neighborhood Once Was



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FRAMEWORK –SOUTH FAIRMOUNT HISTORY

Recent Thinking About What This Neighborhood Can Be

CINCINNATI CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS TRANSFORMATION PLAN:

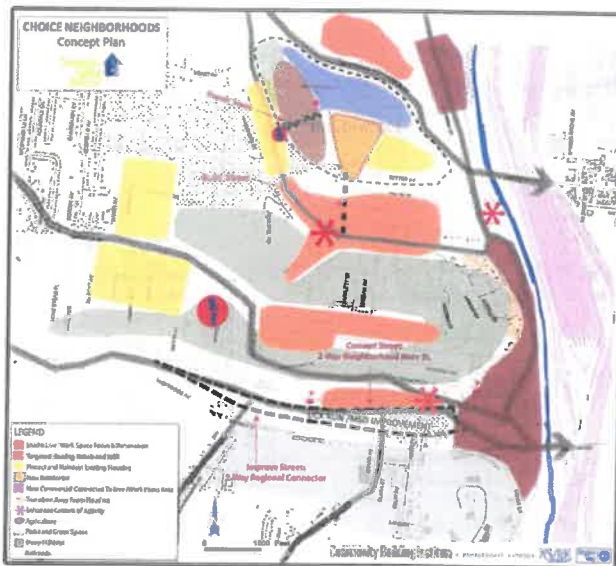
A COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR ENGLISH
WOODS, NORTH FAIRMOUNT, AND
SOUTH FAIRMOUNT

FINAL PLAN

November 18, 2013

Updated March 16, 2014

*Prepared by the Community Building Institute with support from
the Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority, Michaeli Develop-
ment Company, Model Group, and WRT Design*



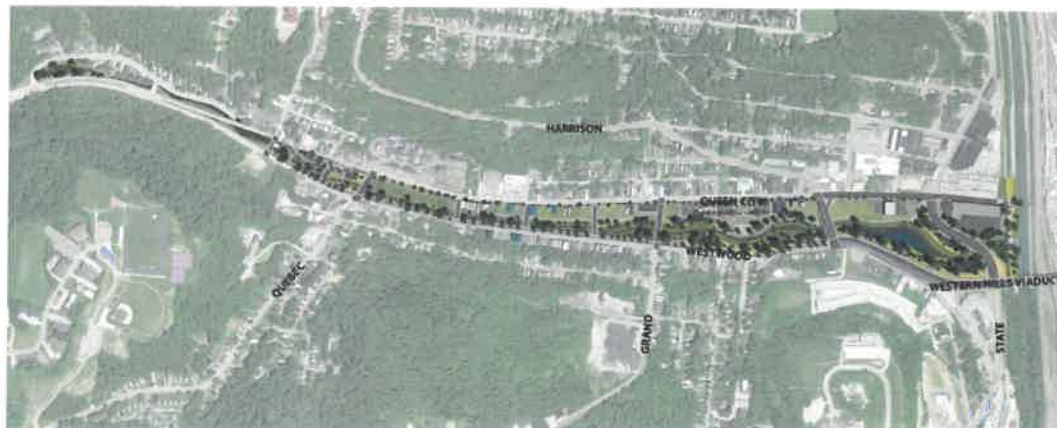
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FRAMEWORK – THE LICK RUN GREENWAY

Preliminary Urban Waterway Concept Plan



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FRAMEWORK – THE LICK RUN GREENWAY

The Headwater Zone – A Community Amenity



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FRAMEWORK – THE LICK RUN GREENWAY

View Along Narrow Channel Zone – Opportunity for Redevelopment



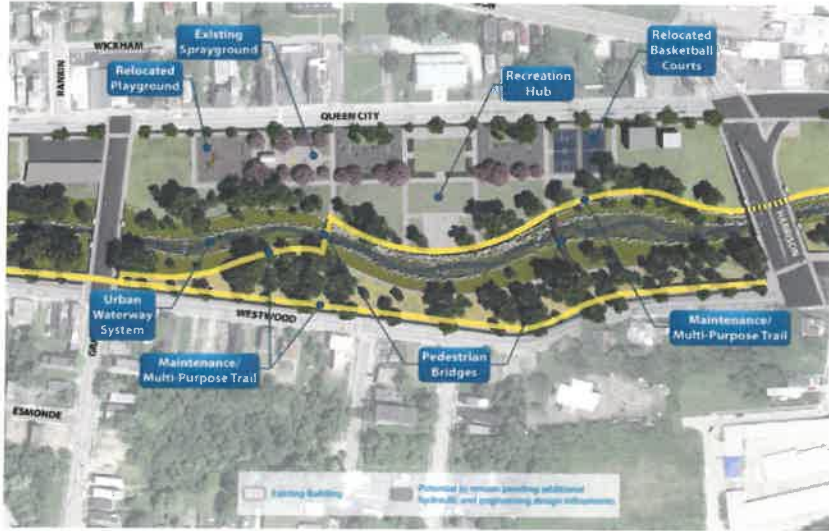
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FRAMEWORK – THE LICK RUN GREENWAY Civic Recreation Area



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FRAMEWORK – THE LICK RUN GREENWAY Civic Recreation Area



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FRAMEWORK – THE LICK RUN GREENWAY
Civic Recreation Area



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FRAMEWORK – THE LICK RUN GREENWAY
Civic Recreation Area



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EXISTING CONDITIONS

A Valley Neighborhood



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EXISTING CONDITIONS

A Valley Neighborhood



From Queen City (Family Dollar looking east)



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EXISTING CONDITIONS

A Thruway



Westwood looking east toward Quebec



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EXISTING CONDITIONS

A Thruway



Westwood looking east from Grand



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EXISTING CONDITIONS

A Thruway



Queen City Ave looking West (p)

Queen City looking west toward Grand



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EXISTING CONDITIONS

Building Fabric



Westwood Ave looking north

Westwood remaining



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EXISTING CONDITIONS

Building Fabric



Queen City Ave looking south toward houses on Westwood

Queen City remaining

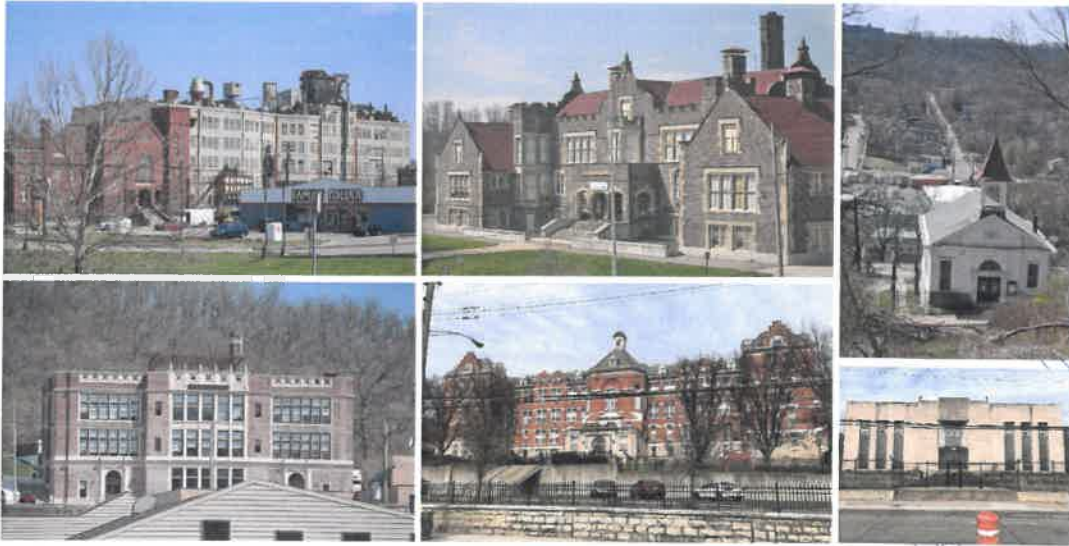


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EXISTING CONDITIONS

Building Fabric – Key Buildings



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EXISTING CONDITIONS

Building Fabric – Vernacular Buildings; and Other Elements



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VISUAL PREFERENCE ARRAY

Choice to Seed Visions of Possibilities

- Sub-Urban Residential
- General Urban
- Urban Center
- Urban Core
- Business Parking
- Public / Gathering Places
- Hillside Development
- **Streets**



Ingredients of a Neighborhood Business District Street

CATEGORY: Street Corridors

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VISUAL PREFERENCE ARRAY

Choice to Seed Visions of Possibilities



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BROAD THEMES and BIG IDEAS

Group Think About the Problems and Possibilities



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BROAD THEMES and BIG IDEAS

Group Think About the Problems and Possibilities

THE MOST WONDERFUL THINGS ABOUT THIS NEIGHBORHOOD

- Community (formerly)
- Unique Geography
- "Urban Nature"
- Wildlife
- Proximity to Downtown
- Great Pieces of Architecture



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BROAD THEMES and BIG IDEAS

Group Think About the Problems and Possibilities

BIG IDEAS

- Water Themes
 - Mill Creek Connection
 - Swan Boats in Lake
 - Hydro-Electric Water Mill
- Recreation Themes
 - Dog Park
 - Zip Line (a big one)
 - Bike link to Mill Creek Trail
 - Kayaking
- Business Themes
 - Work Skill-Building Academy
 - Non-traditional Office
 - International Hub
- Entertainment
 - Winery / Orchard
 - Brewery
- Housing
 - Infill Throughout (including hillsides)
 - Senior
- Urban Agriculture



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BROAD THEMES and BIG IDEAS

Group Think About the Problems and Possibilities

AROUND THE GREENWAY

- Transportation & Streets
 - Slow the Traffic Down (Two-way?)
 - Pedestrian Features (bump-outs, crosswalks / lights, ground signs, etc.)
 - Redbike Station
 - Run Streetcar to South Fairmount
 - Make Stairs Nice Again
- Neighborhood Business District
 - Local Unique Eating Attractions
 - Outdoor Dining
 - Local Retail
 - Farm to Table
 - Housing above Shops
- Lunkenheimer Reuse (very large Industrial building)
 - Senior / Transitional Housing
 - Retail Center
 - Maker / Craft Training Center
 - Cultural Center



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SMALL GROUP PLANNING SESSION

Preparations

Five Small Groups:

Geographical

- West
- Center
- East

Topical

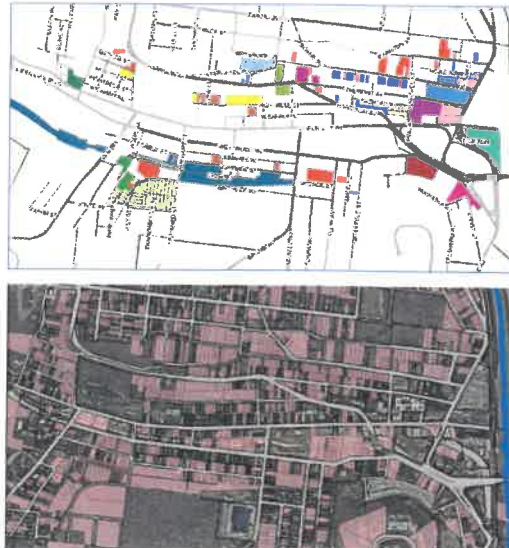
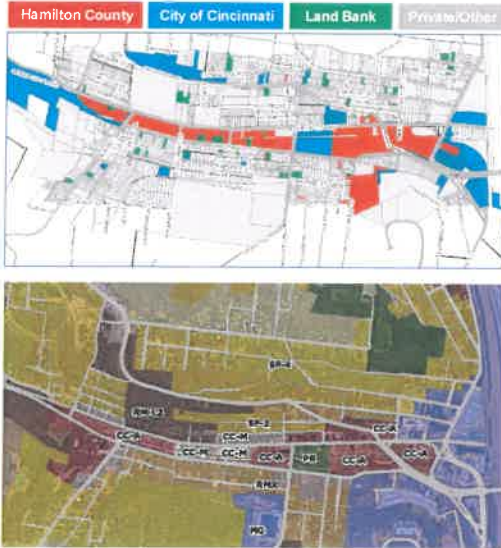
- Branding / Image
- Civic Infrastructure / Implementation



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SMALL GROUP PLANNING SESSION Preparations



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SMALL GROUP PLANNING SESSION Discussions and Sketches

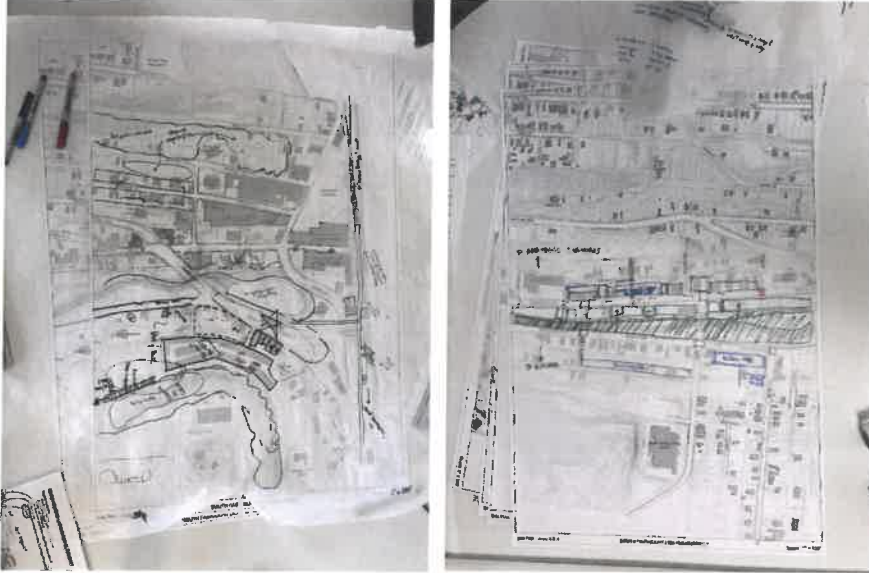


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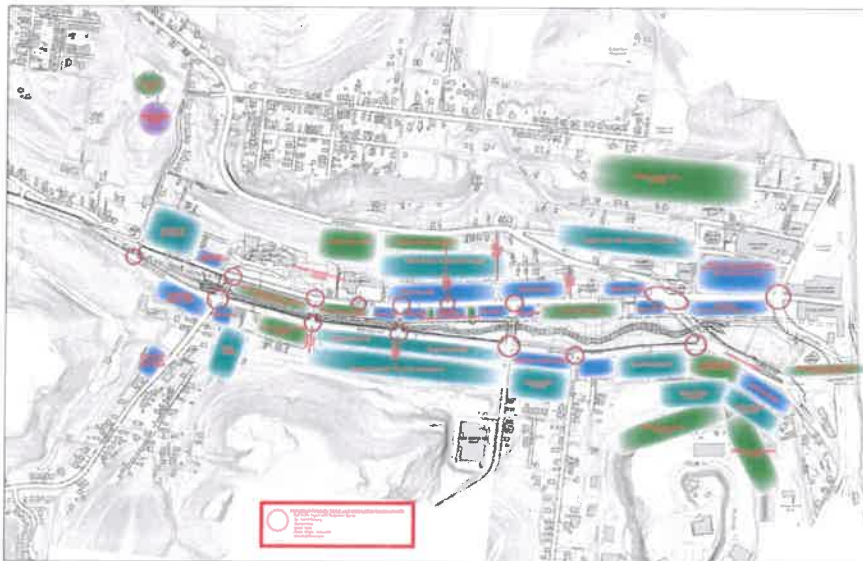
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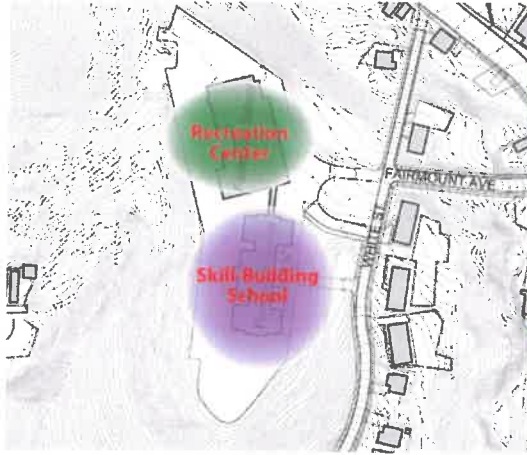


South Fairmount 2026

South Fairmount, just minutes from downtown Cincinnati, is a community with deep heritage and strong 21st century assets. Home to the Lick Run Greenway, the area is a national model for green infrastructure solutions and creative urban agriculture. Historic small homes and imposing 19th century factory buildings shelter families, industry and cultural institutions. Hillside stairways lead to a network of parks where wildlife still roam and bike paths connect to adjacent communities and the Mill Creek waterway. Affordable and close knit, the community also sports a thriving business district and serves as the gateway to Cincinnati's beautiful west side.

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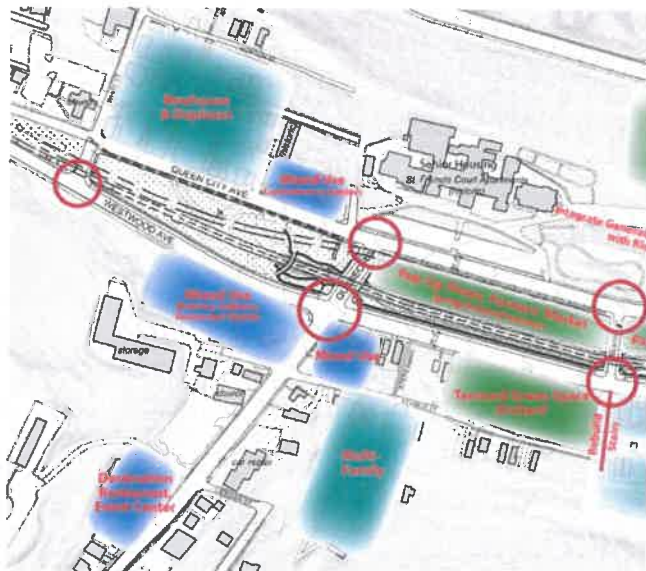


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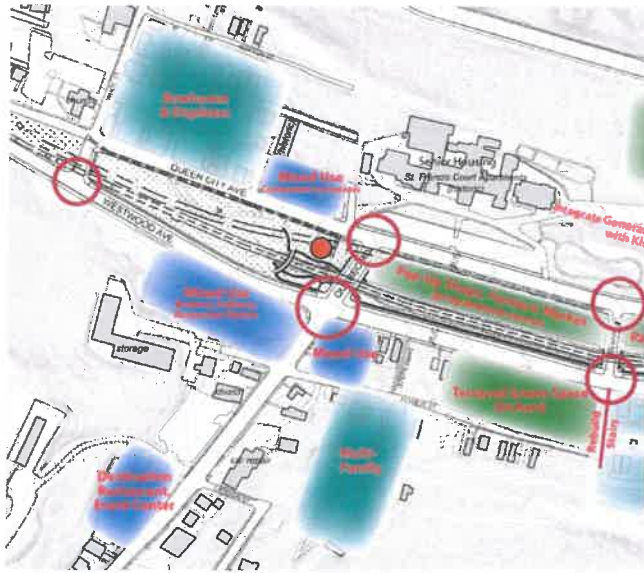


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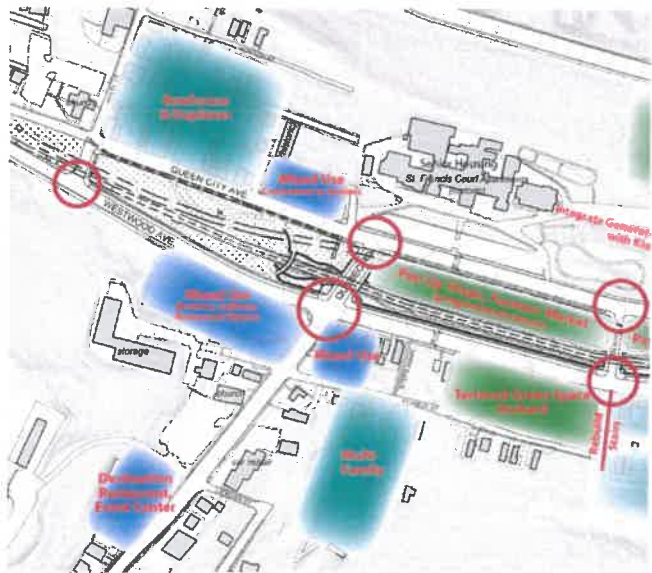
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CATEGORY Public and Gathering Spaces

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G6
CATEGORY Urban Center

G9
CATEGORY Hillside Development

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Category: Hillside Development

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Category: Hillside Development

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CATEGORY: Urban Center

VEHICULAR SCALED

PEDESTRIAN SCALED

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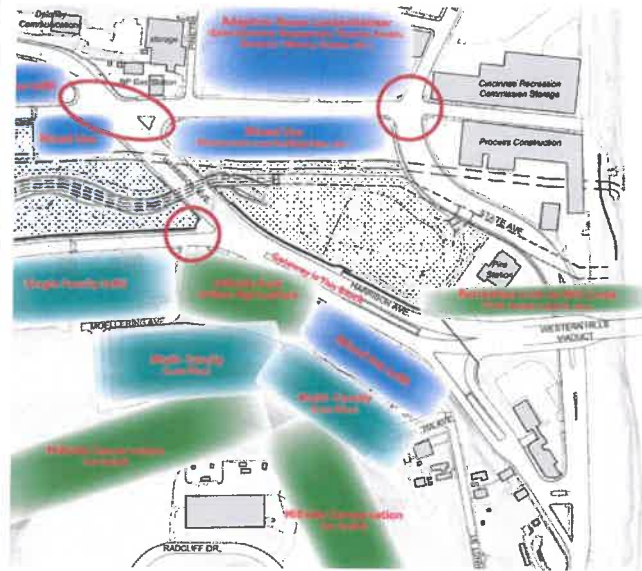
SMALL GROUP PLANNING SESSION Output

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SMALL GROUP PLANNING SESSION Output

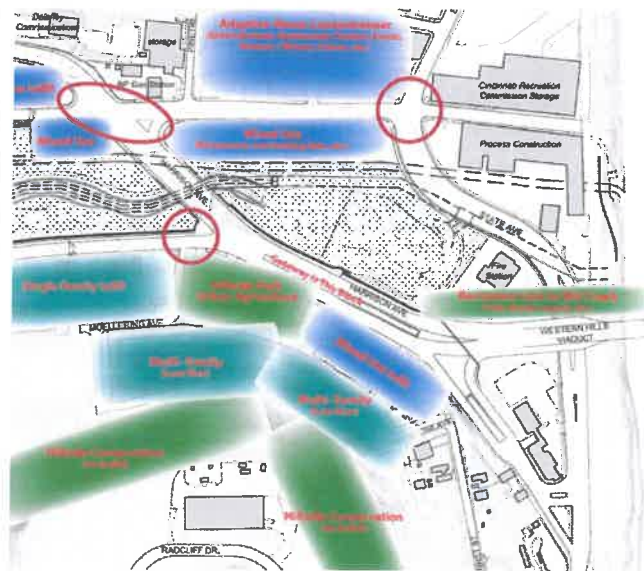


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Pedestrian-Friendly Street and Intersection Improvements:

- Full Traffic Signal with Pedestrian Signal
- On-Street Parking
- Bump-Outs
- Street Trees
- Zebra Stripe Crosswalks
- Textured Pavement



Full Site Plan

SOUTH FARMINGTON LICK RUN DISTRICT

Scale: 1" = 200'

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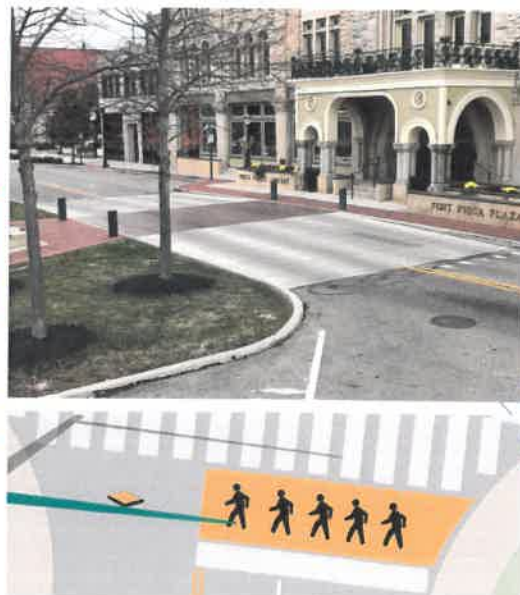
SMALL GROUP PLANNING SESSION

Output



Pedestrian-Friendly Street and Intersection Improvements:

- Full Traffic Signal with Pedestrian Signal
- On-Street Parking
- Bump-Outs
- Street Trees
- Zebra Stripe Crosswalks
- Textured Pavement



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SMALL GROUP PLANNING SESSION Output

- Pedestrian-Friendly Street and Intersection Improvements:**
- Full Traffic Signal with Pedestrian Signal
 - On-Street Parking
 - Bump-Outs
 - Street Trees
 - Zebra Stripe Crosswalks
 - Textured Pavement



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SMALL GROUP PLANNING SESSION Output



FULL Site Plan

SOUTH FAIRMOUNT LICK RUN DISTRICT

Scale: 1" = 200'

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SMALL GROUP PLANNING SESSION

Community Image and Brand

The Personality Statement

(first Draft)

South Fairmount 2026

South Fairmount, just minutes from downtown Cincinnati, is a community with deep heritage and strong 21st century assets. Home to the Lick Run Greenway, the area is a national model for green infrastructure solutions and creative urban agriculture. Historic small homes and imposing 19th century factory buildings shelter families, industry and cultural institutions. Hillside stairways lead to a network of parks where wildlife still roam and bike paths connect to adjacent communities and the Mill Creek waterway. Affordable and close knit, the community also sports a thriving business district and serves as the gateway to Cincinnati's beautiful west side.



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Community Image and Brand

A Heritage and a Name

The neighborhood has heritage.
The community has Catholic roots.
It has Italian roots.
It has Appalachian roots.
It has German roots.

This is a community of heritage and heritage is the point and you can drill down and find all the heritage points beneath that.

The neighborhood affirms its name. **South Fairmount** is the neighborhood's historic name—and its future name.

South Fairmount is home to the Lick Run Greenway, much as Mt. Lookout is home to Ault and Alms Parks and Over-the-Rhine is home to Washington Park.



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SMALL GROUP PLANNING SESSION

Implementation and Civic Infrastructure

Key Needs

The Civic Infrastructure/ Implementation group identified several key needs for the Lick Run area and surrounding community. The needs are:

- Control Over Development – this was identified as the primary need
- Business Attraction
- Education Improvement
- Transportation Advocacy
- Development of Urban Agriculture network
- Blight Elimination
- Crime Prevention

The group also recognized limitations such as:

- A lack of resident capacity,
- A five-member community council board, and
- Limited attendance at community council meetings.

The Community will need partners to achieve its goals

"If you want to do any type of reconfiguration of the road network, now is the time to get started on that planning right now."

"If we want to make any changes we have to get a handle on the zoning and to start acting right away."

"We should consider whether or not we want to keep existing buildings, historic buildings. Hillside development has a lot of challenges."

"In all honesty there is a lot of opportunity to work with the City and intergovernmental agencies like the Port, the Land Bank, Community Development Corporations and others to achieve our goals."

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SMALL GROUP PLANNING SESSION

Implementation and Civic Infrastructure

Goals and Next Steps

Next Step	Potential Partners
Promote residents to be proactive and reporting issues in the neighborhood	City's Property Maintenance and Code Enforcement Division
Have a voice in the acquisition and disposition of property, consider the REACH program	Port Authority Landbank
Make proactive changes residents want to zoning now, rather than waiting for more development interest (then it's too late to stop development we don't want)	City Planning Department and Zoning Division
Continue moving forward with WIN on Beekman Street initiative and other initiatives	Working in Neighborhoods
Build membership in the community council and engage renters, as well as review bylaws	Invest in Neighborhoods
Gain a better understand of programs and resources available for economic development	City Department of Community and Economic Development Program Officer

Some Immediate and Short Term Actions

- Continue to plan cleanups and beautification projects.
- Explore ways to bring artists and public art (such as murals) to the community.
- Prepare to advocate for transportation changes along with Western Hills viaduct project.
- Build community capacity to enact and advocate for identified Goals and Next Steps listed above

"Our primary partners are WIN and the community councils."

"We should partner with neighborhoods who've come a long way like Westwood where several organizations work together and property values have gone up, more restaurants and businesses have moved in. Camp Washington too."

"We should work on short term efforts too: Trash, beautification efforts, clean-ups which allow community members to participate, welcoming new people into the community, Community gathering spaces. Building that community infrastructure."

"There have been some conversations with Artworks about putting murals up. Need to ID a fundraising campaign to pay for them, maybe GoFundMe."

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SMALL GROUP PLANNING SESSION

Implementation and Civic Infrastructure

Conclusion

The overall conversation and impressions from the Implementation and Civic Infrastructure group was that the Lick Run Greenway project presented a **tremendous opportunity** for the South Fairmont Community.

Community leaders in the breakout group developed key connections with other community development leaders in learning some best practices and insights into spurring momentum in older city neighborhoods.

South Fairmont is uniquely positioned today with a blend of **significant history behind it**, challenge in front of it, and **boundless opportunity ahead of it**.

This plan is a roadmap forward for this community coming out of the Lick Run Greenway Project, **let's get started**.



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