



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT • 1140 Terex Road • Hudson, Ohio 44236 • (330) 342-1790

DATE: November 21, 2023
TO: Mayor Anzevino and Members of City Council
FROM: Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee
RE: 2024 Comprehensive Plan Progress Report

Introduction:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide City Council an update on the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee’s discussions to date. Over the past year, the Committee has been meeting regularly with City Staff and OHM Advisors with the following key accomplishments:

- Conducted extensive public engagement as further described in this memo. Of note, 94% of the respondents to the community survey stated they were satisfied to very satisfied with the overall quality of life in Hudson.
- Clarified community priorities based on the public outreach.
- Drafted tentative Goals and Objectives which contain the specific action items of the plan.
- Drafted geographic focus area options based on priorities, for additional community feedback.
- Developed the below Vision Statement, which describes the guiding principles of the plan.

Engagement Overview

The committee has completed the following engagement efforts. Results are posted on Let’s Talk Hudson.

- Community survey open May – July (statistically valid & general).
 - **Community Survey Top Priorities:** see attached Survey Findings Report from ETC Institute
- Held activity tables at Earth Day event and four farmers markets.
- Comp Plan intro video played at Screen on the Green.
- Community Workshop #1 on June 7, 2023
- Online engagement ongoing on Let’s Talk Hudson.
- Committee conducted six small group focus meetings.
- Committee has received letters with input from several community organizations.
- Regular social media and e-news updates.

Vision Statement

Based on community engagement, the committee has prepared the following **vision statement** to include in the draft plan for public review:

“To maintain the high-level quality of life for all residents by measuring all proposed changes against the values of the community with a look to the future. Safety and greenspace

preservation are at the forefront. Protect the character of the downtown and surrounding neighborhoods. Provide room for measured development such that the impact on traffic, utilities, environmental issues, and quality of life for the community at large is considered first. The Comprehensive Plan is the guiding document to bring the community’s vision to fruition over the next decade and beyond.”

Public/Semi-Public Amenities: Consideration of a Community/Recreation Center has been a strong theme from the community survey. Committee is discussing the concept of a single facility or two facilities with one to focus on recreation and another to focus on community arts and programming. Site location discussions include the city owned downtown acreage and the St Rt 91 Corridor between Stoney Hill and Barlow Road. The committee anticipates the plan will recommend a feasibility study be advanced to define the specific services/amenities, site location, and cost estimates.

Focus Area Overviews

The focus area overviews account for public input on public/semi-public amenities as well as input related to housing, greenspace, and development. The committee has reached some general consensus on the following proposals:

1. **YDC:** Leave as vacant green space for the foreseeable future. Hold until a transformational option is presented for office/industrial use.
2. **Downtown Development Area (Former Phase II):** Add a mix of active community space (potential site for community/recreation facility) and residential space, but prioritize community space. Residential space would have integrated greenspace.
3. **South 91 Corridor:** Mix of some non-single family residential space and possible active community space (Potential site for community/recreation facility) in addition to mixed-use commercial redevelopment. Incorporate streetscape enhancements to define the area.
4. **Darrowville/Southern Gateway:** Focus on preservation, streetscape enhancements & creating a distinct gateway into Hudson.
5. **Seasons Rd Corridor:** Will not be mapped out to the level of detail of a “focus area” but should be highlighted on the overall land use map as a priority area for building out industrial use; fill Seasons Corridor before considering industrial development in new areas like YDC.

Next Steps

- December 13, 2023 - Committee to review *full draft framework* (land use map, focus areas, goals & objectives)
- January 10, 2024 – committee to finalize the revised draft framework plan for the workshop
- January 24, 2024 – committee to finalize workshop preparations
- January 31, 2024 – Community Workshop #2 to engage residents on the framework plan
- February/March, 2024 – Incorporate community feedback into final plan for submission to City Council
- March-July, 2024 – Review and adoption process by City Council and Planning Commission